

THE CHART

Volume No. 59, Issue No. 19 • Missouri Southern State College, Joplin, Mo. 64801-1595

Friday, March 12, 1999

Pitcher Justin Dudinsky is back for one more season with the Lions after recovering from an elbow injury... Sports Scene, Page 12



Senior psychology major Dee Dee Clark (right) holds a punching bag so that senior nursing major Leanna Swager can practice her upper cuts during Tuesday morning's workout at the Joplin Family Y.

Tae Bo: Packs a powerful punch

Southern students take advantage of high energy workout program at Joplin Family Y

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

Streets are almost deserted at 5:30 a.m. in Joplin. With the exception of the occasional car, Range Line Road and Main Street are free of traffic. However, there are a few dedicated souls who refuse to hit the snooze button and stay in their warm beds. They are called by a more powerful source to leave their comfort zone and to get out into the wee hours of the morning.

This power is something that can be expressed in two words that make the heart start racing — Tae Bo.

At the Joplin Family Y, sleepy exercisers file

Student LifeBeat



These special features are designed specifically for you — the student. If you have story suggestions, please call 625-9311.

into a room. It is now 6 a.m. and a bouncy woman walks in and turns on blaring music that sounds like a cross between the Village People and the Beastie Boys. Everyone starts bouncing with the woman, and in no time, Tae Bo is in full swing.

This new workout phenomenon is a rebuttal against every lazy person's excuse. The program, marketed and introduced to the world by boxing champion Billy Blanks, is a mix of aerobics and kick boxing. Turn on the TV or stroll through Wal-Mart and see the effect this exercise program has had on the nation.

For the time-impaired, the good news is one doesn't have to crawl out of bed at 6 a.m. for Tae Bo. Thanks to the ever-popular infomercial, tapes can be bought almost anywhere.

Andy Tummons, video manager at Hastings, said Tae Bo tapes have been flying off the shelves.

"Tae Bo has been our No. 1 seller for a month and a half," he said. "We run out pretty constantly."

Tae Bo tapes sell at Hastings for \$36.99 for the first two tapes. A full set includes four tapes: a 40-minute introduction tape that demonstrates how to kick and punch properly without injury, a 30-minute workout tape, an eight-minute power workout, and an hour-long advanced workout tape.

Although prices vary at different stores, \$25.99 at Sam's Club and \$34.99 at Target, the effects of the workout are the same for the average Joe — soreness — but not for some dedicated Tae Boists.

"Tae Bo gives me energy for the rest of the day," said Leanna Swager, a senior nursing major. "It makes you feel good to get your frustrations out."

Dee Dee Clark, senior psychology major, appreciates the workout as well.

"It's fun and intense," she said. "It's really worth it."

Shelly Grimes, wellness director for the

TURN TO TAE BO, PAGE 2

BOARD OF REGENTS

College expresses need for lobbyist

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

To help push issues important to Missouri Southern a little further in the State Capitol, there may be need for a hired lobbyist.

College President Julio Leon said this is not an entirely new idea.

"It's something that the members of the Board of Regents have been thinking about for quite some time," he said.

Steve Carlton, Board president, said this position most likely would be on a part-time basis.

"The position would depend on what our need and resources dic-

tate," he said. "We don't have the need or the time for a full-time position."

Leon said several educational institutions in the state have lobbyists, including Southwest Missouri State University and Central Missouri State University. He said this position would be helpful for both the College and the legislature.

"Every institution has set representatives or senators who are in the Capitol representing the interest of the region where the college is located," Leon said. "They always

TURN TO LOBBYIST, PAGE 2

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Symposium speaker cancels engagement

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Nobel laureate Rigoberta Menchú Tum has withdrawn from participation in the 1999 Henry and Bernice Gockel Symposium.

Menchú was scheduled to speak April 13, the second evening of the symposium.

"One just takes these things as they fall," said Richard Massa, director of the Institute of International Studies.

Massa received an e-mail from Rebeca M. de Cardenas March 2 informing him that Menchú would not be able to attend the symposium. Her withdrawal prompted the cancellation of the second night of the symposium.

The April 13 program has been moved to Taylor Auditorium. Tickets are not required.

This year's topic will be "Latin America: Peace, Human Progress and New Challenges for the 21st Century."

Menchú is the subject of an on-

going academic controversy. Middlebury College professor David Stoll's book, *Rigoberta Menchú and the Story of All Poor Guatemalans*, asserts Menchú embellished her 1983 autobiography.

Massa said he had no evidence that Menchú's cancellation was related to the controversy.

De Cardenas said Menchú would be attending a human rights commission work session in Ginebra, Guatemala, at the time of the symposium. She is canceling other appointments she has already confirmed.

Organizers are disappointed Menchú will not attend, but are still enthusiastic about the April 13 program. The 1987 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Oscar Arias, will be the opening night speaker.

"I'm very excited that Oscar Arias is coming," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs. "Any time you can get a Nobel Prize winner to come to your campus, you are very proud." □

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Former South African leader addresses challenges

de Klerk emphasizes world issues, change

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Rising to the challenge of global leadership dominated the message from former South African president F. W. de Klerk Tuesday night at Southwest Missouri State University. He put pressure on the more than 1,500 in attendance and the rest of the American young people to get involved in world issues.

"The world is looking at you and asking for leadership and involvement," said de Klerk, a co-recipient along with Nelson Mandela of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize for the role he played in bringing democracy to South Africa.

Speaking from his country's experience, de Klerk stressed the need for globalization and awareness of the economic and social status of the international community.

"After the economic implosion in Russia, we in South Africa were one of the main victims," de Klerk said. "Within a couple of days our stock market crashed."

"None of us can afford to ignore economies in distant countries."

de Klerk believes the world has seen more economic growth and technological advancement in the 20th century than in the last 20 centuries combined.

"King Louis IX would have gladly exchanged his chariot for a Toyota," de Klerk said.

He emphasized the need to embrace change and negotiation if the world economy is going to continue to grow in a productive way.

"Sooner or later, economy conflicts in distant civilizations will breach international borders," de Klerk said. "It is essential for all of us to develop the skills to address disputes in distant countries."

Another issue de Klerk touched on was the rights of the minority. He said for South Africa to become a democratic nation, it first had to respect its numerous minority cultures.

"Minorities must not be asked to stop being what they are and not be requested to give up what is precious to them," he said.

"Minorities need to feel they are part of the greater whole."

Effective negotiation is what de Klerk contributes to South Africa's political success in establishing a democratic system of government.

He says in order to achieve a beneficial outcome, each side must be flexible

and willing to make concessions.

"If one party leaves in jubilation and another party leaves in dejection, it is not a successful negotiation," de Klerk said.

"All parties leaving must get enough to say 'I will defend this agreement because there is enough in this agreement for me.'"

de Klerk closed with a 20-minute question and answer session where he addressed topics ranging from sanctions to warfare.

He assured one student that she can make a difference.

"You have a crucial role to play," he said.

"If we all accept the challenge of change, we can make the next century better than the one drawing to a close."

de Klerk's optimism was recognized by the audience, who ended the night with a standing ovation. □



MATT MADURA/The Chart
F.W. de Klerk speaks to members of the press before his Tuesday speech in Springfield.



Arts Showcase:

Eric Gruber takes a closer look at the new motion picture *Cruel Intentions*...page 7

What's Inside

Index

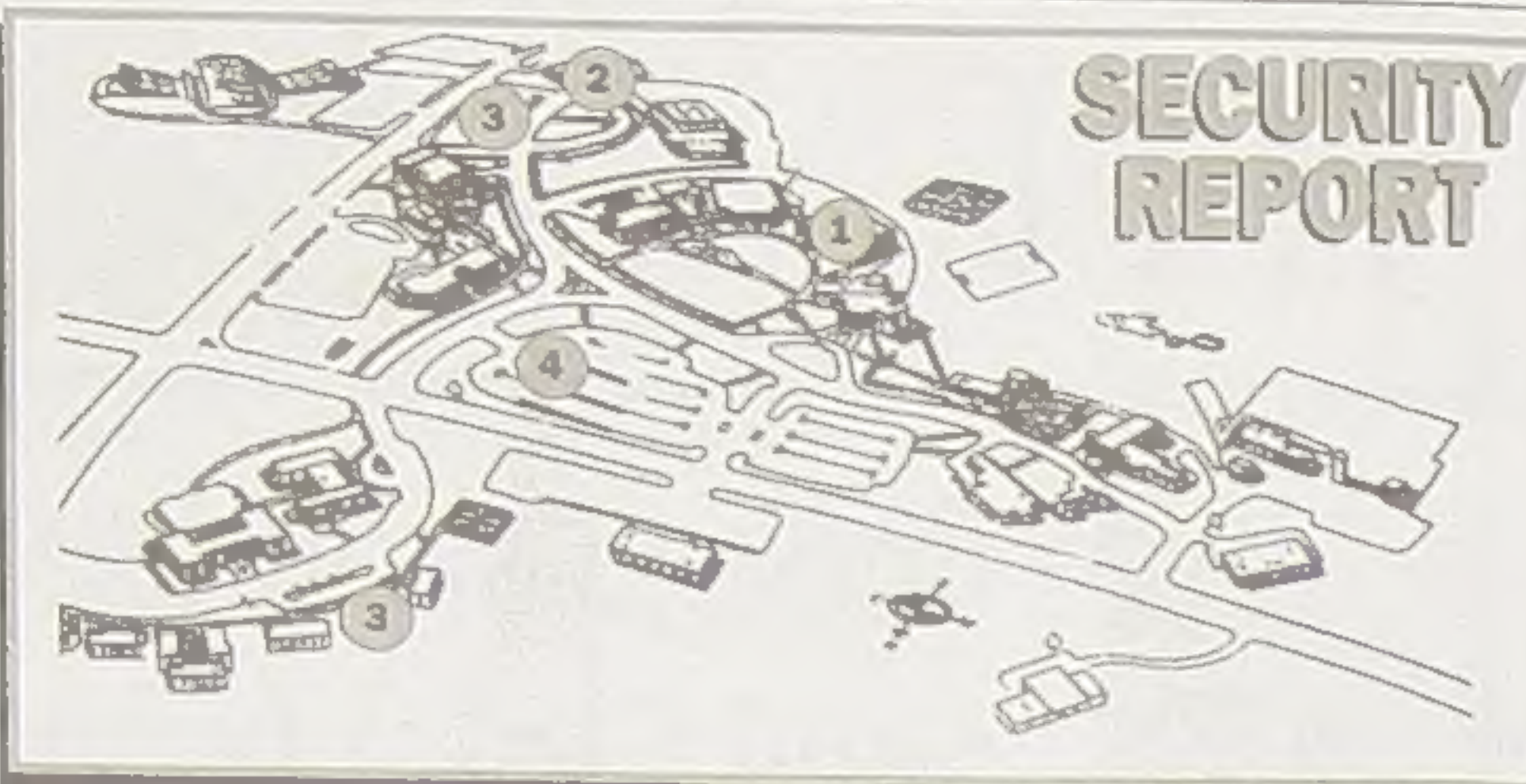
Southern News	Page 2
Second Front	Page 3
Public Forum	Page 4
Southern Faces	Page 5
Around Campus	Page 6
Arts Showcase	Page 7
Pieces of the Past	Page 8
State News	Page 9
City News	Pages 10
Sports Scene	Pages 11-12

Your source for Missouri Southern news and events



www.mssc.edu/comm/chart/chhome.htm

Office: 625-9311 Editor: 625-9790 Advertising: 625-9789 Fax: 625-9742

SECURITY
REPORT

- 1 3/4/99 Reynolds Hall
Dr. Gerald Schlink, a biology professor, reported eight new Genetics books stolen. The door to his office was closed but not locked. The books are estimated to be worth \$160.
- 2 3/4/99 Lot #5
Deidra Bradley was parked in the handicapped area at 10:30 and returned to her vehicle at 10:45 and found damage to her license plate and her turn signal. Estimated damages at \$65.
- 3 3/8/99 Gockel Hall
An S.A. in Blaine Hall had reported a dumpster on fire in front of Gockel Hall. Ron Mitchell had extinguished the fire, and the cause of the fire is unknown at the time.
- 4 3/8/99 Lot #39
Cindy R. Bennight reported that her 1997 green Pontiac had been backed into and the rear bumper had been torn. It appeared that someone driving a pickup truck had backed into her car.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Spring Break mission work prompts Union's travels

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Baptist Student Union will be taking a mission trip to Arlington, Texas, for spring break, March 20-26.

The BSU will join Baptist Student Unions from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Henderson State.

Congregations and other groups come from around the country to participate in Mission Arlington. There are 200 congregations with a weekly attendance of 3,500 people and a base of 2,000 volunteers.

The groups will participate in Bible clubs, apartment ministries, hospital clinics, food pantries, clothing closets, furniture delivery to needy families, senior adult min-

istries, and dental assistance.

"You have to have a heart for the lost," said Angie Moore, a junior elementary education major at Missouri Southern. "We will be reaching out with God's love and helping the homeless and others in need."

Last year, the BSU took a trip to Daytona Beach, Fla., and participated in "Beach Reach." The idea was to minister and witness to students on spring break on the beach. This year's trip has more of a hands-on focus.

"This year we get to experience the ministry and helping others in real life," Moore said. "We get to take one week out of an ongoing ministry and lead it ourselves."

The students going to Texas have to study lessons ahead of

time and plan for the sessions they will lead.

"I am very excited about the new direction God is leading the BSU this spring break," said Victor Boll, BSU director.

The cost of the trip to Arlington is \$35 and includes housing, transportation, and food.

"So far, we will be taking two vans of students. The trip is still filling up," Boll said.

The BSU has other activities students can participate in, including a Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Mondays and a noon lunch on Wednesdays.

"This summer we have summer missionaries come and stay in our dorms and help churches with vacation Bible school and various things throughout the community," Boll said. □

TAE BO: Exercisers start slow, advance to bigger kicks

From Page 1

Joplin Family Y said her classes have been full since November when she started incorporating Tae Bo into her cardio kick classes.

"The goal is to get the heart rate up and burn fat," she said. "Basically we're doing Tae Bo here, and our classes have gotten a lot bigger because of it. We'll continue doing it as long as the fad stays."

Grimes takes precautions so no one gets hurt.

"In real kickboxing, people really kick the crap out of each other," she said. "Here, you can make it as challenging as you want to."

Which is good for exercisers who have a slow start.

"I don't know, Tae Bo looks pretty hard to me," said Tummons with a laugh. "I hope people stick with it, but it looks pretty advanced."

Clark doesn't plan to quit anytime soon.

"Anybody who can do this is awesome," she said. "It's definitely not for sissies." □

LOBBYIST: Even if lobbyist is hired Leon will continue frequent visits to Jefferson City, Capitol

From Page 1

do a very good job of representing the interest of Missouri Southern State College, and they try to obtain additional funds for the College.

"But they also represent the entire area, and there are many organizations and individuals that they represent," he said. "In addition to that, there are many issues that are statewide. It is so overwhelming that sometimes it is helpful for an institution and for the legislators themselves to have additional help from an individual who concentrates on representing an institution and bringing their attention certain issues."

Carlton said even if the College hires a lobbyist, Leon will most likely continue visiting the Capitol on a regular basis.

"It won't negate his need to be up there," he said. "I don't view Dr. Leon as going up there to be a lobbyist. I think they would be complementary of each other."

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) said even though it is important for Leon to continue to go to Jefferson City, a lobbyist would be helpful.

"Julio can't get around to all the committee members. I can't get around to all of them,"

he said. "It's always nice to have someone who can meet with the individual members of the committees and entice them to vote for certain issues."

"Having a lobbyist, whether it's full-time or part-time, doesn't relieve the president of the obligation to represent the institution," Leon said. "That's one of the things that legislators do expect, to be in contact with the president of the institution."

He said one thing a lobbyist would do is to give Southern a louder voice in the Capitol.

"Sometimes the smaller institutions get passed over by coordinating boards, and the legislature has a tendency to pay attention only to the big guys," Leon said. "If you are less confident that you are likely to get a fair shake by the Coordinating Board [for Higher Education], then you want to get additional help from the legislature." □

PRO 100 INC. REALTORS



CHERYL
BARLEY

BROKER-
ASSOCIATE

(417) 626-5552



MIKE
FLANAGAN
BROKER-
ASSOCIATE
MULTI-MILLION
DOLLAR
PRODUCER

(417) 626-5545



GARY
GREENE

GRI, BROKER-
ASSOCIATE

(417) 626-5533



"Professional
real estate
advice doesn't
cost...
IT PAYS!!"

MIKE
WOOLSTON
BROKER-ASSOCIATE

ABR, CRS, GRI

(417) 626-5526



DOUGLAS
JONES

GRI, BROKER-
ASSOCIATE

(417) 626-5520



JUDY
PHILLIPS

CRS, GRI,
BROKER-
ASSOCIATE

(417) 626-5530

(417) 782-0800 (800) 798-0113
The PROfessional Center, 2401 East 32nd Street, Suite One
Joplin, Missouri 64804

TAX ADVANTAGED SOLUTIONS FROM TIAA-CREF

IF YOU THOUGHT COLLEGE WAS EXPENSIVE,
TRY PUTTING YOURSELF THROUGH RETIREMENT.

Think about supporting yourself for twenty-five, thirty years or longer in retirement. It might be the greatest financial test you'll ever face. Fortunately, you have two valuable assets in your favor: time and tax deferral.

The key is to begin saving now. Delaying your decision for even a year or two can have a big impact on the amount of income you'll have when you retire.

What's the simplest way to get started? Save in pretax dollars and make the most of tax deferral. There's simply no more painless or powerful way to build a comfortable and secure tomorrow.

SRAs and IRAs makes it easy.

SRAs - tax-deferred annuities from TIAA-CREF - and our range of IRAs offer smart and easy ways to build the extra income your pension and Social Security benefits may not cover. They're backed by the same exclusive investment choices, low expenses, and personal service that have made TIAA-CREF the retirement plan of choice among America's education and research communities.

Call 1 800 842-2776 and find out for yourself how easy it is to put yourself through retirement when you have time and TIAA-CREF on your side.

www.tiaa-cref.org



Ensuring the future
for those who shape it.™

TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. and TIAA-CREF Securities and Investments are the TIAA Real Estate Advisors. For more complete information, including charges and expenses, call 1 800 842-2776, ext. 1359, for the prospectus. Read them carefully before you invest or send money. 1378

Senate runs out of funds for allocations

Money ends with more groups hoping for funds

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Flat broke — that's what the Student Senate is after Wednesday's meeting. The Senate allotted the remainder of its \$2,500 between three campus organizations.

The Manufacturing Technology Club received \$800 of the \$1,000 it requested. The money is helping fund the club's trip to National Manufacturer's Week in Chicago. Since it is a national show, companies from all over the country will be in attendance.

The second organization to receive funding was Phi Beta Lambda. The business club received \$900 toward its trip to a leadership conference in Jefferson City. While there, Phi Beta Lambda will compete in various categories in hopes of qualifying to attend the national conference.

The recipient of the final \$800 of Senate funds was Kappa Mu Epsilon, the mathematics honors organization. Dr. Mary Elick, associate professor

of mathematics and Kappa Mu Epsilon's adviser, presented the club's financial proposal to attend a national mathematics convention in Lakeland, Fla.

"It's an honors society, but you didn't trust your students to crunch numbers?" Senate President Jesse DeGonia asked Elick.

"It got pretty complicated," she said. "Yes, I trust them."

Junior senator Jason Kiefer questioned the financial committee's decisions on how the amounts were decided upon.

"We took the amount each club requested and gave them a percentage amount based on their total cost," said treasurer Chad Brown. "They all got equal percentage amounts."

Just because the Senate is out of money doesn't mean the allocation requests have stopped coming.

The Senate received two new appropriation requests from the German Club and the Russian Club. Even though the Senate is out of money, Doug Carnahan, dean of students and Senate adviser, sounded hopeful.

"We have six or seven organizations that are yet to turn in their receipts," Carnahan said. "We may find out they didn't need all their funds. We may have a little more than \$0."

Senate elected two new senators this week: Jeff Hopper, freshman political science major, and Robyn Richardson, sophomore elementary education major.

"I just want to join Senate to get some leadership skills and meet new people," Richardson said.

Hopper, a non-traditional student who used to be in the Navy, hopes to gain government experience through the Senate.

"With my major, it's going to be very helpful for me to get into the right frame of mind and understand government procedures," he said. "It will also look good on a résumé when I graduate from here four years down the line."

The Senate rescheduled next Wednesday's meeting with the administration due to College President Julio Leon not being able to attend.

The new date for the Senate to meet with the administration is March 31 after the regular Senate meeting.

Some issues the Senate plans to discuss are transferring some of Crossroads' funds to the Senate for allocation and the score distribution of senior assessment tests.

"Students want to know how they did on their senior tests compared to their freshman tests," DeGonia said.

SENATE COFFERS

MAR. 10 REQUESTS:

■ Manufacturing Technology Club—
Request: \$1,000
Received: \$800

■ Phi Beta Lambda—
Request: \$1,000
Received: \$900

■ Kappa Mu Epsilon—
Request: \$1,000
Received: \$800

CURRENT BALANCE:

\$0.00

Missouri Southern's Student Senate allows clubs and organizations made up of students to request up to \$1,000 to pay for group expenses.

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Annual Madrigal Feast tickets still available

Tickets are still available for a Madrigal feast and other courtly pleasures offered at 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, March 20 in Taylor Auditorium.

The stage in Taylor Auditorium becomes the banquet hall of King Budward (A.D. 1549). The event is a benefit for the music department.

Cost is \$18. Reservations may be made by calling 625-9346. The dinner portion of the program includes a menu of turkey legs, beef ribs, corn on the cob, potatoes, soup, fruit, cheese, and pie.

King Budward (Bud Clark, director of choral activities at Southern) will reign over the evening with his royal court.

Senior honors students examine current issues

The first honors student presentation this semester takes place at 3 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall auditorium. Iwona Drozdek, a senior economics and finance major, will discuss the "International Monetary Fund — A Curse or a Blessing?"

Drozdek's presentation will examine the pros and cons of the fund, its current influence on the global economy, and its future.

Chad Boulware and Chat Waits, senior biology majors, will make the next honors presentation on April 21. They will discuss androstenedione, a naturally occurring substance that is directly converted to testosterone in the body. Controversy and public awareness greatly increased last summer when Mark McGwire, the St. Louis Cardinals slugger who shattered the home run record, admitted using androstenedione.

Boulware and Waits have performed a 90-day study using androstenedione in lab rats, looking at various physiological and histological effects.

Prewett repeats model United Nations award

Nick Prewett, a senior political science and history major, received an award for Outstanding Representation at the recent Midwest Model United Nations conference in St. Louis. It is the second consecutive year that Prewett received this award.

Prewett and four other members of Missouri Southern's Model United Nations Club played the role of Kenya at the conference. Jason Kiefer, a junior social science education major, served on the General Assembly 4th Committee, which tackled issues such as the question of Palestine and measures to eliminate terrorism.

Robert Fowler, a sophomore undeclared major, served on the Economic & Social Council that debated issues involving the international standards for transborder waste disposal, food security, and delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Raphael Young and Jeff Hopper, freshmen undeclared majors, served on the General Assembly 1st Committee, which discussed disarmament and international security.

Carver exhibits on display at Spiva Art Gallery

Exhibits from the eighth annual George Washington Carver Art & Essay Contest for fourth graders will be on display in the Spiva Art Gallery through March 20. The George Washington Carver Birthplace District Association and Missouri Southern's school of education sponsor the contest.

The theme for this year's contest focuses on a quote by Carver, "Where there is no vision, there is no hope." Judges will critique the entries for creativity, knowledge of facts, and legibility.

An awards ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. March 20 in the Billingsly Student Center. Trophies, prizes, and certificates will be awarded to winners in each category. A team trophy also will be awarded this year.

"Last year's program was a huge success with more than 500 students participating," said Al Cade, assistant to the dean of the school of education.

PHYSICAL PLANT



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Midland Construction worker Lennie Stone lays cement blocks in the future Leggett & Platt Athletic Center.

Building projects draw to close

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Major improvements are slated to be completed this semester on the campus of Missouri Southern.

The Leggett & Platt Athletic Center and Student Life Center dining hall are in the process of being completed by June, said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president.

"The field house is close to completion," he said. "In our last meeting with the contractors, we were told the construction on the field house would be around June 15. The dining hall above the Student Life Center should be completed by May 15."

Current work on the 80,000-square-foot athletic facility includes the air and heating ducts and some painting. The need for a new gymnasium is vital, Tiede said.

"The current gym is already being used from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily," he said. "With the addition of the new indoor track and three new volleyball courts, students should have a lot more room to use."

With the added amount of space, Southern would have the opportunity to host high school tournaments. The academic aspect of kinesiology will also be improved due to the addition of the basement. Classes that are currently being taught in Webster Hall would be moved to the basement of the new facility. Dr. Dirk Nelson, head of the department of kinesiology, said the new location of the classes will be a convenience for all students and kinesiology faculty.

"Almost all classes currently being taught in Webster Hall will be taught in the new building," he said. "There will be four new classes being taught in addition to a new metabolic cart,

which allows students to measure oxygen capacity and determine fitness levels. There will also be a new human performance laboratory, which will be set up similar to a regular laboratory except that many components would have exercise equipment."

Even with the addition of these two projects, Tiede said there is constant room for improvement.

Southern will begin construction on a "blackbox" theatre, add on to the library, and give McCormick Hall a facelift.

"We plan on adding 40,000 square feet to the back of the library and four new stories as well as some much needed updates on the current technology," Tiede said.

With these improvements to the campus, Tiede said Southern is up to par with most NCAA Division II institutions.

Students eager for Break time

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Members of The Chart's Class of 2001 are sitting on the edge of their seats for next week's spring break.

Sophomore biology major Amanda Pulce will be taking her little brother and sister to Disney World over the break, adding that the time off is much needed for her.

"I can't wait to go," she said. "I'm ready to go."

Pulce is also faced with the burden of searching for a new job. She left her last one after being promised a raise but not receiving one.

"That's just cheap," Pulce said. "I think I'll wait until after spring break to look for one, though."

Sophomore political science major Wade Early will be traveling with Koinonia Christian Campus Ministry to Florida and Disney World. Early, however, says he has much bigger changes of scenery taking place in his life, the first being his departure from the Missouri Southern baseball team in January.

"God had other things for me," he said. "Baseball was more like a job than fun, and when it stops being fun, get out. I'm really enjoying life more since baseball is not a part of it."

The other things God had for him, Early said, include a leadership role in Joplin's Young Life program, which involves ministry to area high school students.

Early is active in leading a Bible study strictly for high school boys.

"I really like helping them and showing them that God's better than drugs and alcohol and girls," he said.

Sophomore undeclared major Nann Robertson was stung in court after the last Chart article listed her as an undecided major. Robertson had been working toward a dental hygiene degree, but was considering a switch to science education.

Robertson said her ex-husband brought up the article and her undecided major and cited it as a cause to revoke money for her children's child care, which she uses during school days.

"I think it's obvious to a judge that, with my [4.0] GPA, I'm not just goofing around," she said.

Consequently, Robertson took a job at the Learning Center to earn some extra money.

"I'm working as a computer lab assistant, and I love it," she said. "I feel like I'm contributing a little more and taking a little of the load off of Tom [my husband]."

Robertson's first education class began March 1, and she will use the class to make decisions about a future career in teaching.

"I want to be sure I enjoy it before I take the classes over," she said. "I can't nail down what age group I want to work with."



INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Communications, journalism students headed for France

By JANA BLANKENSHIP
ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

A taste of the French culture is to store for many Missouri Southern communications majors this spring break.

Nineteen students and two faculty members are packing their bags to leave for Paris on March 20. They will be attending the International Media Seminar, held in part at the American University of Paris and the International Herald Tribune.

Donnie Simon, senior mass communications major, got a letter from Dr. Chad Stebbins, associate professor of communications, inviting him to go to Paris with other students.

"I've always been interested in going to a foreign country," Simon said. "With the invitation and the trip being partially paid for by another party, I couldn't say no."

Stebbins said the idea for the trip came about after a November 1997 meeting in Paris with Lee Huebner, former publisher of the International Herald Tribune and interim president of the American University of Paris.

Huebner now heads the Paris-based Center for the Study of International Communication.

"Lee is even going to have our students over for dinner one evening at his luxurious apartment," Stebbins said. "That will be quite a treat."

Students signed up for the trip enrolled in a class that meets Mondays at 11 p.m. In the class, instructed by Stebbins, students learn about French culture, what to expect in Paris, and the seminar they will be attending.

"I hope to gain knowledge of international journalism and communication," Simon said. "I also hope to gain some experience of another culture."

Not only will Simon be attending seminars, he will also be videotaping parts of the conference and the sights for a 30-minute program he's producing for KGCS.

Sarah Wheeler, junior mass communications major, said she almost decided not to go.

"It was hard to decide to go because I'm already going to Vienna with the choir," she said. "I had already dedicated myself to go to that. But once I applied for grant money, I got

enough funding to go to both."

Wheeler is excited to talk to people from the International Herald Tribune, the U.S. Embassy, CNN, and TF 1, the leading French television outlet.

"There are things I can't learn from going to school or learn in Joplin," she said.

Wheeler said this will give her the opportunity to see what the market is like, not only in the United States but in other countries as well.

"One day, if I want to go work in another country, this will put me that much more ahead," she said.

Christy Yun, senior speech communications major, hopes to broaden her experiences to what the media are like in different parts of the world.

"It actually hasn't hit me yet that I'm going over there," she said.

"The group that's going is really good. We've all known each other for a long time. We're really good friends."

She thinks this trip will help her become a more well-rounded person.

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

College needs more power at state level

If Missouri Southern wants to be in on the big meetings with the bigwigs who make the big decisions about funding and university status, we need someone to represent the College at the Capitol in a big way.

Sure, College President Julio Leon does a good job of jaunting back and forth to Jefferson City, but wouldn't it be nice if he could be reserved for the major negotiating moves?

Most of the larger universities have full-time or part-time lobbyists who attend important budgetary and higher education meetings for their respective institutions. These are the people getting recognized. These are the people with a voice.

Dr. Leon may have made some large strides for the College during his term as president, but not even he can visit every member of every committee that is hearing a bill that may effect Southern. What we need is someone on our side whose job description is to bring the needs of Southern to the forefront of political discussion and to present the mission of the College to those who may otherwise be unaware we even exist. We need someone legislators can count on seeing at eight o'clock in the morning every morning that an issue dealing with Southern is going to be addressed.

We need a lobbyist who can rally our troops in the capitol before every vote that effects Southern. Whether it concerns issues important enough for Dr. Leon attend or if representatives are voting on more routine items.

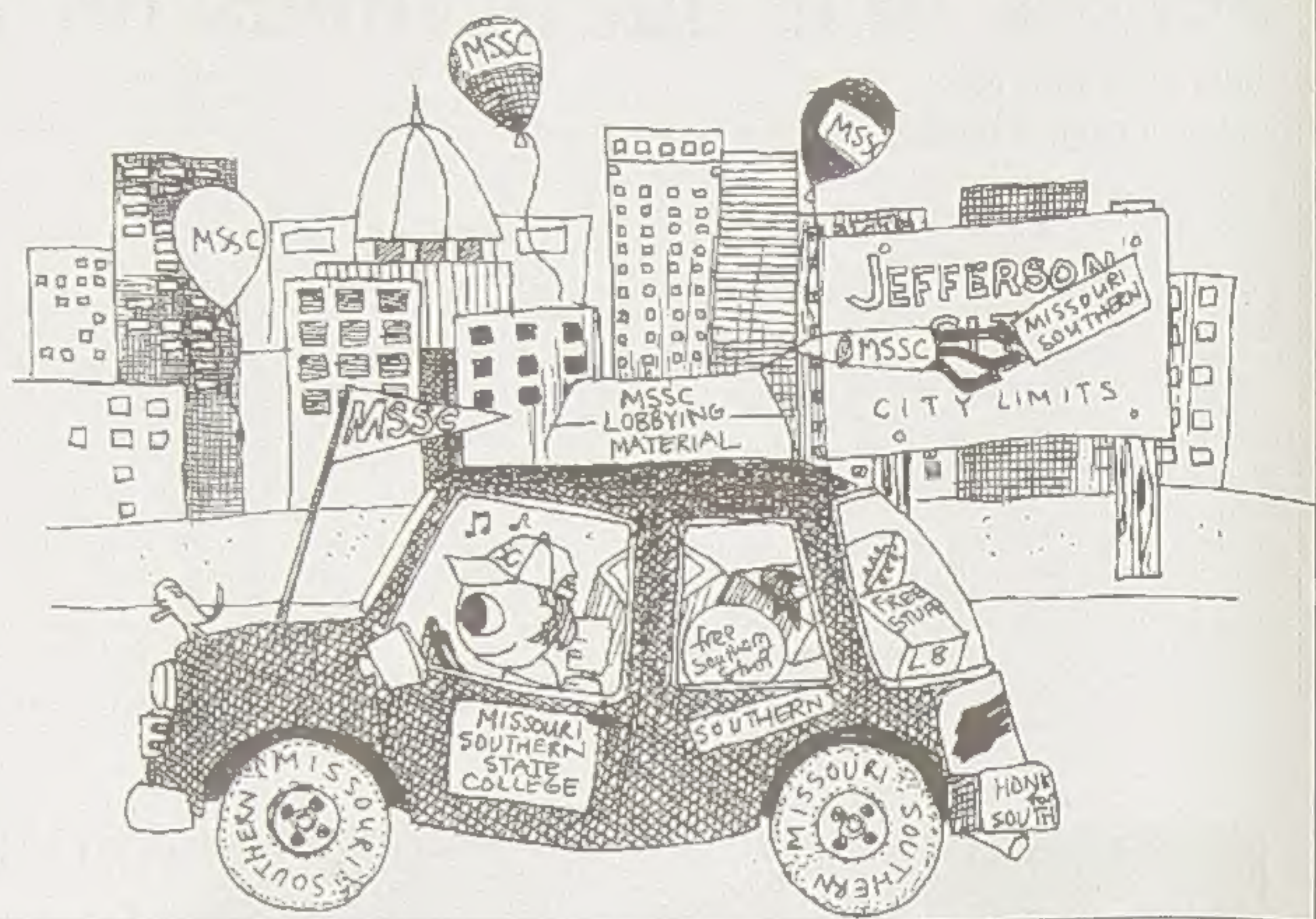
This lobbyist will not solely be there to influence what Southern desires from the state legislature, but he will also be able to relay back to us vital news about what is going on in Jefferson City.

The prominent foothold this lobbyist would have in the capitol would also be prime for increasing the number of friends and supporters of Southern.

Southern is an institution with much to offer. We are growing and achieving more semester by semester, and, as other major universities begin to take notice, we should begin preparations to make our presence known and noted by legislators and higher education members who hold issues vital to the expansion of Southern in their hands.

If we intend to continue growing, we need to let put the power of two behind that big bat Leon has been swinging solo for so many years. He has helped the College accomplish much. Think about how much farther we could go with just a little more effort. □

ANDREA'S ANGLE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Sleeping late prohibits smile, bounce

Have you ever had one of those days? You know the kind. You get up 20 minutes before class starts, spend 10 minutes making yourself halfway presentable, and use the other 10 somehow making yourself late for class. Well, I happen to be having one of those semesters, or years, for that matter.

Those who happen to be in any of my morning classes know what I'm talking about, and I would like to take this opportunity to apologize for my appearance in those classes. It is not a pretty sight. I'm just not a morning person. I never will be.

Getting up in the morning is so pathetic for me that I have my alarm clock set 20 minutes

ahead. As if that's not bad enough, I then set it an hour and a half earlier than I really need to get up. Unless, of course, I don't get up until 10 minutes before class starts. Then I've wasted two good hours of sleep time by beating my snooze button to death.

I thought my mornings would get better once I started college. I was so pumped that my earliest class was at 9 a.m. instead of 7:52 like in high school. I guess it was a little better at first. But then I got stuck in my head that since I had longer to sleep, I could stay up longer. Oops.

Now I can't seem to get that idea out of my head. If I'm in bed by 1 or 2 a.m., I feel pretty good about myself. That is, until the dreaded morning comes. This is about the time I start thinking, "I can skip breakfast. There's an extra 15 minutes to sleep."

That thought eventually evolves into, "If I don't put on makeup, I can sleep an extra 15 minutes."

And my last thought before I zone out again,

"How fast can I brush my teeth?"

At first I felt bad for my disgusting morning habits. Then I started looking around campus and I realized I'm not the only college student plagued by this awful disease. Mornings have been cursing students since the invention of college, so I finally decided in some twisted way I am normal.

I'm mortified when I see those smiling, happy, and just plain clean individuals who bounce around campus at 9 a.m. (I'm sure they were bouncing much earlier than this, but I'm never here because I don't believe in 8 a.m. classes.) To be quite honest, these people scare me. It's just not natural to be this way.

If you happen to see me in the morning, be sure that I will not be smiling and I will not be bouncing.

However, this does not mean I'm in a bad mood or having a bad day. It simply means my day has not started yet. Once I get a good dose of my soap operas in me, I'll be ready to face anything. □



Jana Blankenship
Assistant Design Editor

IN PERSPECTIVE

Annexation vote critical to future growth

In the past 100 years, there have been two local elections that have had greater significance than all others.

On April 2, 1954, Joplin voters approved replacing the commission form of city government with the current city manager structure.

In 1970, citizens approved a one-cent sales tax.

In 1954, the city had five well-qualified, intelligent men serving as commissioners.

The city staff was excellent. However, this form of government would not

allow the city to progress as it should.

The citizens responded with a vote for the new form of government.

On April 5, 1970, city government was functioning well, but the amount of tax revenue was not sufficient to guarantee the appropriate quality of life for our citizens.

The bulk of our tax revenue was obtained from a property tax.

This unfair tax was so burdensome that city officials could not justify an increase in this tax. The city responded with the approval of a one-cent city sales tax.

It is my opinion the eastern annexation issue is as important to our community as the issues related above.

Whether the issue is passed or not, growth will take place to the east of Joplin. The

"bypass" ensures this growth.

The question is will this growth be positive and controlled or will it be haphazard and uncontrolled?

There will be a need for new sewer and water lines in that area. Joplin can supply these needs. The Duenweg Fire Department is an excellent unit, but in my judgment, the growth will make it difficult to provide service to this new area. Both the Jasper County and the Newton County sheriff's offices will be severely taxed to supply law enforcement to this area. The city of Joplin is well prepared to supply all the services listed above.

In my judgment, a "YES" vote by both the citizens of Joplin and the citizens of the proposed annexation area is a WIN-WIN proposition. I would urge you to vote "YES" on April 6. □



Dr. Floyd Belk
Joplin City Council

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mailmsssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

IN PERSPECTIVE

Students have opportunity to aid city's progress in April election

Early in April, students at Missouri Southern will have the chance to vote on two opportunities that will add to the progress of this city. The issues are air conditioning our public schools and annexing an eight-square-mile area into the east side of the city. These are important issues for you as residents of this community.

First, the annexation. The Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce is working with residents in that area who favor the move. These residents want the protection of their property that zoning creates. They want police protection and they want full-time fire protection, not only for the safety, but for the reduction in insurance costs. They have a need for city sewer and water.



Rob O'Brian
Chamber President

There are solid reasons the annexation benefits city residents and Southern students. Chief among them is that development in that area creates the opportunity to add to Joplin's revenue stream. Yes, it will cost more to have that area in the city, but over time the sales tax income development brings will more than offset the costs. That adds revenue that helps the city serve all of its residents and makes Joplin a better place for all of us.

More pointedly, directed development in that area will also create more and better jobs for residents in this area, including those of you who plan to enter

the workforce on a full-time basis. In addition, it provides additional room for new residential areas. Home ownership is still affordable here, but only if there are good areas, with city services, for housing development.

The Joplin R-8 School Board and administration have a different, but no less pressing, issue. They want to air condition every classroom in the school system. They firmly believe air conditioning adds to the learning environment, that comfortable students are more likely to pay attention and learn. That's a reasonable assumption, based on observation of students at the city's only air-conditioned school.

I'm not going to debate the cause of global warming in this column, but the fact is that regional temperatures, particularly at night, have increased some

over the past few decades. Consequently, school (particularly fine brick schools like most of those in Joplin) absorb more heat during the day and have less opportunity to cool at night.

Many Southern students are from this area. You know what it's like in those hot classrooms, how truly miserable it can be. You have the opportunity to help the younger students in the R-8 school district.

Economic growth, more and better jobs, and a conditioning for those students in the Joplin public schools — this election is an opportunity for Southern students to both benefit and give something back to the next generation. It happens by voting April 6. The opportunities are knocking; it's up to you to help open the door. □

THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)
ACP National Pacemaker (1997) ACP Best of Show (1998)
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997, 1998) MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97, 1997-98)

The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

Ginny Dumond
Editor-in-Chief

Jeff Billington Executive Editor
Jeff Wells Managing Editor

Andre L. Smith Sports/Design Editor
Rhonda Clark Associate Editor
Erin Sellers Campus Editor

Eric Gruber Arts Editor
Marla Hinkle City News Editor
Jana Blankenship Assistant Design Editor

Elizabeth Schurman Assistant Editor
Noppadol Paithong Photo Director
Andrea Wilkinson Cartoonist

Scott Francis Online Editor
Rob Woodall Advertising Manager
Dr. Chad Stebbins Adviser

Staff Members: Robby Ball, Russell Dale, Phyllis DeTar, Joseph Harris, Cassie Hobbs, Melody Loring, Matt Madura, Chris Roberts, Vince Sweeney, Angie Williams, Brian Wirth

ADMISSIONS



ROB WOODALL/The Chart

Kim Jordan, a May 1998 Missouri Southern graduate, returned in August as an admissions counselor. She enjoys the travel aspect of her job which allows her to visit high schools and network with other admissions counselors.

Grad's job keeps her on the trail

By ASHLEY WOLF
CHART REPORTER

After graduating from Missouri Southern last spring, Kim Jordan is back on campus.

Now she is an employee of the College, but it was as a student that she told her predecessor she would like to be an admissions counselor.

"I had a great experience here as a student," Jordan said. "When this position opened up, I jumped at the opportunity to come back."

In August she began the job she wanted. Jordan received a bachelor of science in education and was certified to teach social studies.

"Those positions seem to fill up quickly, or they were looking for coaches," she said.

The coaching aspect did not interest Jordan. However, the opportunity to meet new people and travel as an admissions counselor was appealing.

"I really enjoy going to the college fairs and visiting the high schools," Jordan said.

College fairs and school visits are a major part of her job.

"In the fall, I went to the fairs where I would set up a booth with information about Southern," Jordan explained.

"Then I'll do a follow-up by visiting high schools and talking with interested students."

She covers a large territory including the St. Louis and Kansas City areas.

"I hope to see the number of students in my territory increase," Jordan said.

She is often gone recruiting for a week at a time. She has met many people at college fairs and has made friends with several admissions counselors.

Jordan says she is learning new things everyday with her new job. She is also continuing her education through graduate courses at Southwest Missouri State University in hopes of attaining a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

"I love school," Jordan said.

She encourages students to enjoy classes and take their time.

"Stick in there because it is worth it," Jordan said.

When she is not on the job or busy with school, Jordan enjoys many activities.

Spending time with friends and family is at the top of the list.

Jordan also enjoys traveling, and has been to Australia and England. As a student teacher at Webb City, she had the opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. and New York with a group of students.

"That was a great experience," Jordan said.

She lives for the summer and warm weather for riding her bike and camping. Jordan enjoys walking her dog, a miniature schnauzer named Pepper.

"I also like to go to the driving range," Jordan said. "I don't like golf, but I love hitting golf balls."

Jordan encourages others to live by her philosophy of life.

"Your life is a gift; make the most of every moment," she said. □

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

New clerk ready to serve

By JENNI NEWMAN
CHART REPORTER

I needing assistance with anything from transcripts to the switchboard, Rita Boyer, Missouri Southern's new records clerk, is the one to ask.

"If I can help anyone with anything, I'll be more than willing," she said.

Boyer, an Oronogo native, began working in the clerical field at her father's photography studio at age 12.

"The wages weren't very good," she said. "We got to eat lunch or something."

Boyer attended Ozark Christian College, originally majoring in music, and met her husband of 11 years, Patrick.

She worked in recruitment training. It was in one of those groups Boyer found her new passion. Realizing she wanted to help others, Boyer started working on her counseling degree.

After getting married, she decided to obtain an associate's degree in biblical literature and concentrate on her family. All her life, Boyer wanted to be a wife and mother.

"To me, just having a daughter who loves me is a major accomplishment," she said. "It's something I'm very proud of."

Boyer enjoys the atmosphere at Southern, likes being able to help people, and is unconcerned with the "Y2K" scare.

"There will always be a need for clerical-type positions," she said. "The clerical people run the place, really."

Boyer enjoys singing in her church choir, sewing, and crafts.

Her 13-year-old daughter, Kristen, also keeps her busy.

Boyer can't imagine doing anything else with her life.

"The only thing I'd know how to be is a person," she said. "I don't know how to be anything else."

"We have souls. I believe strongly in God, and if I didn't have a soul, I would have no need to believe in God."

A major goal Boyer overcame was materialism.

"There are several things that are important to people like materialism; status that's real important to a lot of people," she said. "It used to be something I was driven by, and now it doesn't have any hold on me."

Boyer's hero is her grandmother, who realized Boyer's feelings and emotions even when she hadn't discussed them. Her grandmother would send Boyer a note in the mail to make her feel "important."



DAN GUSTAFSON/Special to The Chart

Rita Boyer, Southern's new records clerk, provides assistance in numerous clerical areas of College activities and information.

She thinks today's families who are broken up or scattered across the country are missing out.

"A lot of kids don't get to know their grandparents, and I'm glad that I had that opportunity," Boyer said.

Growing up with three sisters taught Boyer to manage her resources.

They shared the mirror in their bedroom, and she found herself as the "peacemaker" at home.

One year, Boyer took a vacation to Cancun with one of her sisters.

"The water was crystal blue and the sands were white," Boyer said.

"It's just how I would imagine a picture paradise to look. It was gorgeous. I was ready to come home, though. The food wasn't any good."

Boyer used to work at Loma Linda Country Club, where she got the chance to talk to such celebrities as Leslie Nielson and Mickey Mantle. Boyer offers some advice to students.

"Follow your heart, be true to yourself, and do it (graduate) for yourself, not for someone else," she said. □

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT



ERIN DANIELS/Special to The Chart
Harriett Brower displays her Seraphim Classics.

Secretary enjoys slower pace action of College, Joplin

By JEANETTE A. HUNTER
CHART REPORTER

With all of the struggles of single motherhood, Harriett Brower has led a full life.

A native of New York State, she moved to Joplin in 1979. Brower hoped the "slower pace and close-knit community" would provide an easier way to earn a living.

She joined Missouri Southern this fall semester as the secretary in the criminal justice department. She said the advantage to working in the department is more personal, direct contact with students.

"You really get to know them when you see the same students day in and day out," Brower said.

She was employed at King Press for several years, then moved on to a position at the parks and recreation department for the city of Joplin. Among these jobs, Brower really enjoys working for the College.

"It's a great place to work, benefits are great, the people here are wonderful, and it has a very good atmosphere," she said.

Brower likes the variety of activities the College offers the faculty and staff. The speakers, theatre, and musical productions are something she looks forward to.

She met Harvey Brower, and they were married on New Year's Day 1990. He is employed by Burlington Northern Railroad Company. Her son, Scott, lives in Portland, Ore., and is a hotel manager. Her daughter, Rhonda, resides in Joplin with her husband and daughter, Shaney.

"Shaney is the light of my life," Brower said.

She keeps her granddaughter every other weekend.

"Being a grandmother is different; when I was a mother, I was too worried about making it to really enjoy life and my children," Brower said. "They've become wonderful people."

Shaney isn't the only one who has influenced her life. Contrary to the saying in laws do not get along, Brower said her mother-in-law, Bonnie Brower, is her ideal hero.

"She is 80 years old, goes to the gym almost every day, and she remembers everyone's birthday with a big family dinner," she said.

"She just doesn't quit."

Brower and her husband visit Branson often.

She has vacationed in Holland and Belgium, and also lived in Germany for a year. Her desired vacation would be to visit Israel.

"I also would like to go to Russia," Brower said.

"We had a foreign exchange student from there stay with us I'd really like to see."

Although the student stayed only six months, Brower said they remain in contact and have a close relationship.

Visiting the Internet, surfing the auction lines, and collecting angels from the Seraphim Classics collection by Roman, Inc., are some of her favorite activities. She also belongs to the Trail Blazers. The group holds business meetings once a month, but holds various walks throughout the year.

The last one she attended was a six-mile walk in Branson. Brower says they also see shows and do a variety of activities besides the walk.

The one thing she has learned from life and the advice she would give to students is to take one day at a time.

"Enjoy the present, or we miss out on too much," she said. □

Tri-State Import Cars



\$750⁰⁰ Cash Back \$750
Campus Connection Cash
*Establish your credit
*Drive a new dependable Sentra
*Save \$\$\$

Any student enrolled in at least 6 hours or anyone who's graduated in the last 2 years CALL NOW! Buy or lease any new '98 or '99 Sentra, with or without co-buyer, before March 31, 1999 and get

CASH BACK!

1-800-243-8554

Tri-State Import Cars • 2327 Rangeline • Joplin, MO • (417)-781-1177

ATTENTION FACULTY AND STAFF

AFLAC
PERSONAL
CANCER
PROTECTION
PLAN

AFLAC covers
21 million sons and
20 million daughters
worldwide.

AVAILABLE THROUGH
MISSOURI SOUTHERN
AT A DISCOUNT
PAYROLL REDUCTION
TO ALL FACULTY
AND STAFF

A new cancer policy to help with those unexpected expenses if cancer occurs

Pays benefits directly to you, unless assigned

New benefits include:

Home Health Care Benefits,
Stem Cell Benefit,
Anti-nausea Benefit,
NCI Benefit (pays benefits to covered person diagnosed with internal cancer, for evaluation or consultation at a National Cancer Institute designated cancer center)

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Cancer Screening Wellness,
First Occurrence,
Nursing Services, Hospital Confinement,
Experimental Treatment

Carol Douglas
(417) 944-2500



RISE AND
SHINE
WITH THE
CHART ON
FRIDAYS!

Around Campus

Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.

International Food Feast

International Club's annual Food Feast, 5 p.m. at Forest Park Baptist Church. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$8 for others.

Today
12

Missouri State High School Activities Association Debate tournament, through Saturday, Taylor Auditorium.

Monday
13

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Bookstore's annual sidewalk sale, up to 40% off selected items, through Friday.

Lions' baseball hosts the Mutt Miller Classic, through Saturday.

Thursday
18

12:15 p.m.—Kappa Mu Epsilon meeting, Reynolds Hall Room 211.

12 p.m.—Business Lecture: "How to Sell Goods and Services on the Internet," Joplin Chamber of Commerce.

MSHSAA

High school debaters come to College

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Upon milling around on campus today, some students may notice the appearance of younger students.

No, these are not actual Missouri Southern students. They are participating in the Missouri State High School's Activities Association Debate Tournament.

This is a district tournament held today and Saturday consisting of nine counties in southwest Missouri that make up District 5. This tournament qualifies students for state competition April 23-24.

There are 24 schools competing in the tournament. Each school in the competition

is allowed a limited number of entries.

"Each school is allowed to enter one student in nine different individual events," said Dr. Karolyn Yocum, professor of communications.

Yocum also noted there is some Southern student involvement in the tournament.

"I try to get students interested in teaching communications to help," she said. "This helps prepare them for when they are running their own tournaments."

MSHSAA has been held in Southern since 1987 when the southern district separated from SMSU.

Judges help make the tournament go smoothly. Yocum said judges primarily come to her and ask to participate. David Watkins,

head of the speech and debate department at Neosho High School, also helps recruit judges through a mailing list updated every year.

"Our judges have to be at least two years out of high school, preferably a junior or senior who have had experience," Yocum said.

There are at least two judges in the preliminary rounds and three judges in the final rounds.

Unlike most high school tournaments, district tournament judges are compensated for their time through the participating schools' entry fees.

"Judges are paid \$6 per round or around \$6 an hour," Yocum said.

There are two award ceremonies for the district tournament. The first one is held on Friday evening for the students participating in individual events such as dramatic interpretation and prose.

The following evening's ceremony involves awards for students participating in various debate events. The state furnishes the awards.

"We have a strong district and a very active district," Yocum said. "Coaches make the job a pleasure. David helps take care of the judges and the coaches do a lot of work themselves to make it a success. It is a very cooperative effort."

Persons interested in judging today or Saturday may contact Yocum at 625-9679. □

BLASTS FROM THE PAST



Ty Slaughter of Seneca Junior High School prepares to impersonate Henry Ford as he joined other area school students last Friday at Missouri Southern History Day in Webster Hall.

MATT MADURA/The Chart

JOPLIN GLOBE/MISSOURI SOUTHERN

Champions compete for area spelling title

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Unbowdlerized, xenophobia, and strychnine are examples of words that fourth, fifth, and sixth graders will be trying to spell at The Joplin Globe/Missouri Southern 22nd annual spelling bee.

At 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 24 in Taylor Auditorium, 105 spelling bee champs from schools in the four-state area will begin the long competitive process of striving to become the area's best speller.

Each student competing will receive a trophy for winning his or her school spelling bee, and will then compete for a chance to win the grand prize. The third-place winner will receive a \$50 savings bond while second place will receive a \$75 savings bond. The first-place winner will receive a \$100 saving bond, a trophy, and a plaque for his or her school. Once a student wins, he or she is not allowed to compete again.

Cathy Lamp, educational services coordinator for The Joplin Globe, has been coordinating the spelling bee for the last four years. She believes it is a unique experience.

"It's amazing to hear them spell some of the words," she said.

On March 21, Lamp said the newspaper will publish a listing of all the contestants' names and pictures. CableOne will provide a delayed broadcast of the bee around April 12. Missouri Southern Television will also provide about an hour of highlights from the bee.

Dr. David Ackiss, professor of

"I'm always afraid I'll mispronounce or use the word wrong in a sentence, but it's fun."

Dr. David Ackiss
English professor
and spellmaster

English and the honors program director, is also the "spellmaster" for the spelling bee.

"One of the greatest things about Southern is it's a part of the community," Ackiss said.

He said Lamp does most of the hard work, although he publishes the master spelling list of words, selected and compiled according to difficulty. On the day of the bee, Ackiss chooses the actual contest words and puts them into sentences for the contestants.

"Being a spellmaster is nerve wracking because I'm always afraid I'll mispronounce or use the word wrong in a sentence, but it's fun," he said.

Ackiss said the students have powerful, retentive minds that can master any list, and these words represent the most difficult and obscure words to spell.

"Everyone who comes to this bee is a champion," he said. "They come here winners." □

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Author speaks about his band, poetry, and Basketball

By BRIAN WIRTH
STAFF WRITER

The following words are just part of what could be heard when Jim Carroll comes to Missouri Southern:

"If you give me your ear, I'll whisper you wind that could soothe your burnt blood. The door is right here, breathing the air filled with powders and porn, now comes the dawn."

Carroll speaks at Southern at 8 p.m. Wednesday in Webster Hall auditorium.

He authored *The Basketball Diaries*, which was

made into a motion picture featuring Leonardo DiCaprio as one of the film's stars. Carroll has also written other books, many of which are books of poetry.

He not only has written many books, but during the 1980s he had his own band called the Jim Carroll Band. The music was light-punk rock in style.

Carroll has also done some acting and been in a few movies including *The Basketball Diaries*. His Web site offers information about him, his books, poetry, and music.

On Wednesday, Carroll will speak about his life

and read some of his poetry.

Campus Activities Board member Adam Doss helped secure Carroll to come to Southern. He noticed Carroll when looking through a catalog of speakers, and called Carroll's agent to make arrangements at Southern.

"We thought that Jim Carroll would be interesting to have come here," Doss said.

Admission to the Carroll lecture is free, and the duration which Carroll will probably speak is about two hours.

"It will be really interesting," Doss said. "He has had an interesting life and a great story." □



Jim Carroll
Author: *The Basketball Diaries*

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Increased funds allow more opportunities for activities

By ROB WOODALL
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Attending a concert on campus may become a little easier, thanks to the Campus Activities Board.

"Well, we're going to get some more money," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities. "We're going to try to do some concerts in the new field house."

She said not many bands will play in the 2,000-seat Taylor Auditorium, but due to the much larger size of the new field house, popular bands will be more likely to perform on campus.

The CAB held its bimonthly meeting on Wednesday, complete with a free lunch for students. Attendance was close to 20, but according to Carlisle, was larger

than most meetings of this kind.

"I think that CAB is really important," said Phillip Wilson, freshman environmental health major and future CAB executive. "CAB is part of the College, it has a constitutional place, but it's gotten to be this really small thing that nobody really knows about. Most people don't realize that if you pay the activity fee, you're in CAB."

With student participation in events low, the CAB is concerned with informing the student body of upcoming events and future shows. Patti Richardson, sophomore undecided major and CAB vice president, expressed her opinion on membership and participation.

"I'd like to see CAB expanding and getting more people involved," she said. "I would like to see CAB have more executives who are more active and want to

serve students rather than themselves.

"CAB should be the biggest organization on campus, but nobody knows who it is."

Upcoming events in March include a performance by Jim Carroll, writer of *The Basketball Diaries*, and Zap Attack, a portable fantasy-scape laser arena.

"It's the biggest laser tag in the world," said Desiree Petersen, junior art major and CAB president. "It's huge, four times bigger than any other one we've had."

Anyone interested in the CAB may contact Carlisle in Room 102 of the Billingsly Student Center.

Most CAB activities are free to students.

"I'm trying to get people to see that it's good not to have to go out and party off campus when you can party on campus," Richardson said. □



ROB WOODALL/The Chart

Bratt Doennig, junior secondary education major, takes advantage of the free lunch at the CAB meeting.

Orchestra performs to sellout crowd in Taylor

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

With a huge crowd on hand, the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra seemed right at home during its performance at Missouri Southern March 5. Under the direction of Yuri Simonov, the orchestra featured music by Piotr Tchaikovsky and Dmitri Shostakovich.

Borislav Strulev, solo cellist in the orchestra, was happy with the response from the audience.

"Today was pretty good," Strulev said. "There were a lot of people standing. It's great."

Strulev, who is currently studying at the Manhattan School of Music, has lived in New York for five years. He started in music by playing the piano, but now works mainly on the cello.

"It's very hard work and a complicated process," he said. "The people in the audience is a big organism. You must stay in shape and practice in hotels and wherever it's comfortable."

Jaroslav Kovalev, cellist, has been with the orchestra around six months. He enjoys entertaining people every night.

"Nevertheless, it can be tiring," Kovalev said. "But I don't get tired of playing great music. But we should search something new and play different things every night."

Strulev also believes it is difficult doing the same performance every time. However, he believes it is the orchestra's job to entertain the audience.

"I am enjoying, but it gets boring," Strulev said. "It's the same thing. You hang around and wake up next morning and there is a concert, and people don't realize you are doing other things. But it keeps you in shape."

Bill Rees traveled from Bella Vista, Ark., to hear the orchestra and was pleased.



Music director Yuri Simonov conducts the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra as cellist Boris Slavov anticipates his upcoming solo. The Orchestra performed three pieces and played to a sellout crowd at Southern's Taylor Auditorium.

"You don't get a chance to hear an orchestra of this quality and size very often," Rees said. "It seemed like all of Joplin was here."

Strulev has two concerts left. Other places he has traveled with the orchestra during

this tour are North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, and Wisconsin. "You have to play somewhere," Strulev said. "It's part of the trip."

"I am very glad to be incorporated with

performing arts," Kovalev said. "It's a good chance for musicians and many others." The Missouri Southern audience gave the orchestra a standing ovation. "It was a good response," Kovalev said. □

ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Roundup to feature personalities

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Some familiar faces right off the television screen soon will make their way to the campus of Missouri Southern.

On Friday, April 16, the alumni office is hosting an All Star Roundup replete with Hollywood actors, comedians, and even a few autographed paraphernalia.

This major fund-raising event first was proposed by alumnus Dennis Weaver, who, incidentally, happens to be one of the familiar faces from such TV shows as "McCloud" and "Gunsmoke." Weaver is involved with Southern's economics program, which encompasses recycling and the promotion of sustainable alternatives that are economically profitable.

To help raise money for this program, Weaver went to Ron Richard, whose family owns the Joplin bowling alleys.

"I met with Dennis at a couple of events, and he mentioned to me his goals for a major fund-raising event," Richard said. "Dennis always has had a soft spot in his heart for the College. Eventually, the planning grew into what it will be on April 16."

Richard has been working hand in hand with Lee Elliff Pound, director of alumni affairs.

"There is just so much stuff to plan, but it will be worth it in the end," she said.

The evening's lineup seems to point toward this conclusion. The roundup kicks off at 5 p.m. with a cocktail party and reception where guests can rub shoulders with the likes of Linda Gray, known as Sue Ellen on "Dallas," Ed Begley Jr., seen as Dr. Ehrlich on "St. Elsewhere," and, of course, Weaver.

"The cocktail will have a ton of food," Pound said. "We're going to have a full vegetable, fruit, and cheese bar on one table. Another table will have a taco bar complete with all kinds of Mexican food. And that's all before the dinner."

The reception will be followed by a barbecue dinner

buffet that will start at approximately 7 p.m. Diners will be entertained by comedian Bill "Gofer" Atterbury as well as a light jazz combo arranged by Janet Garvin from the Children's Center who will play throughout the evening. It is also possible Weaver's wife will be singing a song or two during the dinner.

The main part of the evening, however, is the auction.

"We have found some great stuff to auction off," Pound said. "People are going to gawk when they see what we've got."

Some of these items include a signed football and picture from Rod Smith, an autographed hammer and script from Tim Allen, as well as an entire cast photo from the final season of "Home Improvement" and many other autographed items from various Hollywood stars.

"That's just the regular auction," Pound said. "The silent auction, where everything is laid out on tables and people write down bids on a paper, will have some really nice items as well."

The money from these auctioned items and from other donations for the event will be put directly into the Dennis Weaver Scholarship Fund for Economics, as was his original intention. The event has gathered a number of local corporate sponsors along with the support from Richard's bowling alleys.

"I think it's going to be great for the College," Richard said. "It is a quality event that will direct a lot of eyes toward the school."

The alumni office sent out 13,991 invitations nationwide to alumni and friends as well as showing some spot ads for the event on KSN-TV.

The evening's events will be held under a tent on Southern's oval. However, in case of bad weather, it will be moved into the Connor Ballroom of the Billingsly Student Center.

"I'm excited about it," Richard said. "It's going to be something neat and different — a real 'wow' experience." □

STONE'S THROW THEATRE

Pulitzer play begins run

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, began its two-week run Thursday at Stone's Throw Dinner Theatre in Carthage.

This story of a Jewish family attempting to escape from the clutches of the Nazi army is brought to life through a cast of 10 actors and directed by Missouri Southern theatre graduate Brandi Graber.

According to Henry Heckert, resident director of Stone's Throw Dinner Theatre, the show is an educational performance.

"We have something here that happened many times over," he said. "Basically, this is the story of one particular family, the Franks, who attempt to hide from the Nazis for two years."

The Franks had a young daughter, named Anne, who recorded everything that happened to her and her family in a journal.

"She wrote in her diary the whole time," Heckert said. "Actually, we have learned that she had to go back and erase a lot of the things she had written."

After all, Anne was a teenager, too.

"She wrote some things about her mom that weren't too nice," Heckert said. "I guess after she grew up, she didn't think her mom was so bad after all."

The Franks lived in hiding for two years before being discovered. Anne's father owned the store downstairs, and a disgruntled ex-employee's wife exposed the family.

Heckert said even though the topic is serious, the play may be surprisingly amusing.

"We are finding that this script has many elements of comedy in it," he said. "After all, the movie was a bore. It was too dramatic and depressing."

The play began its run at the dinner theatre located near the Route 66 Drive-In on Thursday, and it runs today and Saturday as well as March 19-21.

Adult tickets are \$16 for the two-hour show, but the cost covers more than the typical stage performance. A full dinner is served before the show begins, usually around 6:30 p.m.

"We're really laid back here," Heckert said. "It's a very relaxed, country-style theatre."

Heckert promises this performance will be well worth watching. □

'Cruel Intentions' combines seduction with manipulation

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

Deception, betrayal, and manipulation set the stage for the latest Columbia/Tristar film, *Cruel Intentions*, which opened March 5 at Hollywood 14 Theatre in Joplin.

Sarah Michelle Gellar has proven herself not only as a television vixen with her role in "Buffy: The Vampire Slayer," but also in *Cruel Intentions* with her role as Kathryn. She utilizes her imagery with seductive scenes and arousing acting to make any hormone-driven man salivate and his date to give him the swift elbow to the ribs.

Gellar plays the role of Kathryn, and is nothing short of a beautiful monster. Her learning with stepbrother Sebastian (Ryan Phillippe) creates a duo who embrace a lust for the destruction of other people's lives.

They decide to wager over their latest mission: Sebastian will attempt to "conquer" Annette (Reese Witherspoon), and in return, will get to be with the one woman he wants but cannot have — Kathryn. If he loses, he

hands over his Jaguar to his conniving sibling.

One downfall of the movie is the believability of the character of Cecile (Selma Blair). Even I find it hard to believe in a character that stupid and lacking of common sense. Her naive chapter is crucial to the plot, but the degree of this naiveness is expanded to unsatisfying proportions.

Another pitfall is that the film is set in a somewhat unrealistic, extremely upper class, Ivy League surrounding reminiscent of "90210."

The movie benefits from a dark plot line that doesn't disappoint in the end. It actually

ends differently than the suspected, diverse from the cookie-cutter plots Hollywood usually cranks out.

This is quite a change from most personalities who try to make the crossover from television to the big screen. Such an example is "NYPD Blue's" David Caruso. Being a little fish in a big pond doesn't necessarily allow for evolution into a bigger one.

But Gellar's work on the big screen is flawless and confident, an indication that there's more to her than just a pretty face. She has no problem playing a seductive temptress, but also shows her stability to seem convincing and supportive one minute, and the hawk which knifes her foe in the back the next.

Thankfully, this story is as much a look into



SPECIAL TO THE CHART/Courtesy of Columbia-Tristar Entertainment

the lives of the viewer as it is a look at some very disturbed people. There are those who have cruel intentions with every action they do, and it's important to be aware of whom you trust.

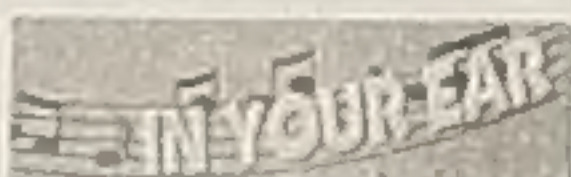
This movie shows to be careful what you ask for—you just might get it. □

Arts Showcase

Arts

Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.



Saturday

13

1 p.m.—

Suzuki Violin String Festival
Phinney Hall

Sunday

14

1:30 p.m.—

Joplin Piano Teacher's Student
Recital
Webster Auditorium

Wednesday

17-20

7 p.m.—

Madrigal Dinner
Taylor Auditorium

Friday

19

1 p.m.—

Joplin Piano Teacher's
Association, Marie Guengerich
Piano Festival
Webster Auditorium

Saturday

20

8 p.m.—

Joplin Piano Teacher's
Association, Marie Guengerich
Piano Festival
Webster Auditorium

Tuesday

6

7:30 p.m.—

Jazz Band Concert
Taylor Auditorium

PIECES OF THE PAST

Friday, March 12, 1999

NORTH PARK MALL

Urban progress pulled retailers from Main to Mall

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The opening of Northpark Mall in Joplin spurred the growth of retail in the area in 1972.

Northpark Mall officially opened Aug. 10, 1972. Charles Parrish of Enterprise Development Company of New York and Dallas, a former Joplin resident, came up with the idea for the mall. The mall construction cost \$15 million, and beginning employment was 1,500 to 1,800 jobs. The mall had 700,000 square feet of retail space and 60,000 square feet for mall arcade. Expansion has taken place since then.

"When the mall first opened, it generated around \$20 million in sales and had around 500 employees," said Dewayne Patton, general manager of Northpark Mall. "Now we generate around \$150 million yearly, and at Christmas time have around 2,500 employees."

Miss Missouri, Anita Marie Colombo, christened the mall with a bottle of champagne, by throwing it up against the brick and breaking it. The grand opening of the mall consisted of 32 stores opening. Ten more were to be added a few weeks later, then 20 to 30 more at a later

date. Some of the first stores at Northpark Mall were J.C. Penney, Montgomery Ward, Ramsey's, and Newman's. Many specialty item stores were located in the mall along with some drug stores.

The opening of the mall has helped the Joplin area expand through retail.

"The development that has occurred on Range Line since the opening of the mall wouldn't be as much without the mall," Patton said. "It has brought national retail to the Joplin area and helped the area businesses be more competitive."

Some people might argue the opening of the mall hurt many downtown and area businesses by taking away their customers.

"There are businesses that might consider the mall a negative thing because it closed down a lot of the downtown area," Patton said.

Others might argue the mall opening has actually helped the growth of local businesses.

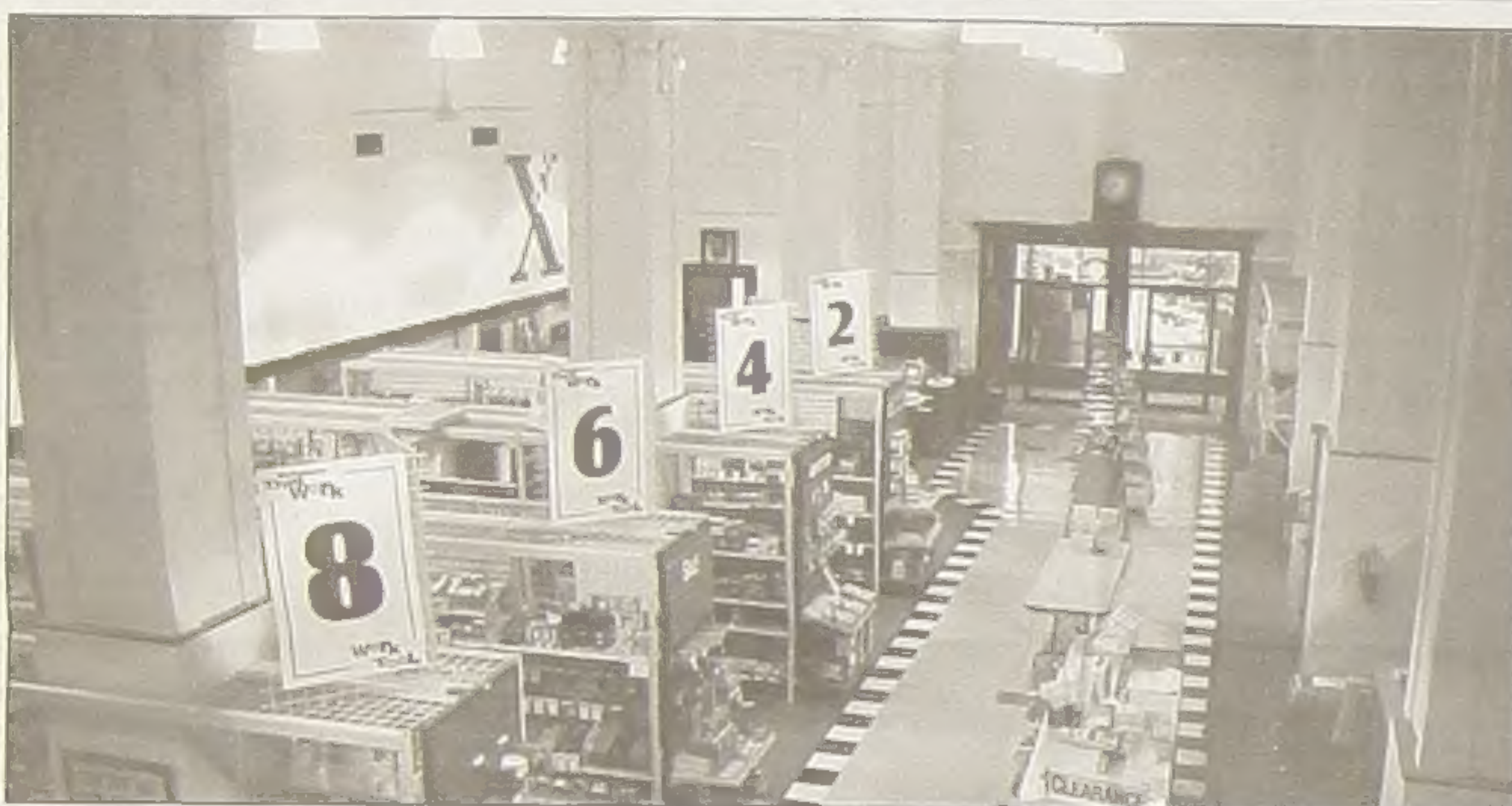
"I don't think the opening of the mall hurt our business," said Karen Irish, owner of Tick-O-Time Jeweler's. "It has helped because the mall doesn't have the quality of things that we do because they buy in bulk and they aren't as creative as the local stores. We intentionally send our customers to the mall for them to compare our product." □



IN 1972 Northpark Mall opened on Range Line Road. This event intensified the exodus of retail from downtown Joplin. Some of the first tenants of the mall included: Newman's, Ramsey's, J.C. Penney, and Montgomery Ward's.

SPECIAL TO THE CHART/Northpark Mall Management

DOWNTOWN JOPLIN



IN 1980 Howsmon's Office Supply moved to the five story Christman Building, built in 1917 to house Christman's Dry Goods Company.

MATT MADURA/The Chart

Howsmon's remains 'anchor' store

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

In the last 36 years, Main Street has seen many businesses come and go but one has remained a constant.

"My husband and I started in business in 1963," said Lee Anne Howsmon, owner of Howsmon's Office Supply. "We bought a bookstore called the Spurgeon Bookstore."

Spurgeon's Bookstore had a history dating back to the 1890s when it was founded as Osterloh's Bookstore. It provided books and school stationery to Joplin students until 1950.

Howsmon and her husband, the late Hugh Howsmon, first heard the bookstore was for sale through a newspaper ad.

"We saw that ad in the paper on Sunday, and the following Wednesday we owned the business," she said. "We talked to my grandmother and asked her if she could loan us the money; it only took about \$9,000 to \$10,000."

She said all they actually purchased was the inventory of the store. They merely took over the lease at 613 Main.

"I was 11 and Hugh was 26 and we just started in business," Howsmon said. "We had one employee and learned the book business. That's where I got my college education, in the bookstore."

"I'll never forget our first sale; the first day was 1963. I came home that night and I said, 'Honey, have we made a mistake,' and he says 'Heavens no, one of these days we'll turn that \$9 into \$9,000.'"

Howsmon said they continued the business for a few years when a stranger entered the scene and helped transform Howsmon's.

"One day, this older gentleman by the name of Jack Adams, he must have been 80 years old if he was a day," she said. "He came and said you guys need to be in the office supply business."

Howsmon said he came back later and talked to Hugh, who liked the idea. He then hired Adams, and Howsmon's entered the office supply business. At the time, the main local office supply business was ready to close its doors, and Howsmon's pulled some strength from there.

"The people left that company and came over to us," Howsmon said. "Everything we actually learned about the office supply industry was from the salesmen — the older gentlemen who had been selling this through the years."

She said at that time they sold many school supplies since places like Wal-Mart had yet to emerge.

"We prepackaged the school supplies for the kids according to the grades," Howsmon said. "We had them packaged for the first grade, second grade, right on up through the sixth grade. I can remember people standing in line to get their school supplies."

She said a few years later they purchased the Ramsey building at the corner of Sixth and Main and the building behind it. They also started a wholesale office supply business.

"We not only were retail, but we became wholesale as well," Howsmon said. "So it was two businesses. We had a wholesale office supply and a retail office supply."

At this time, Howsmon's was running out of room. It purchased the two buildings to the north of the store and cut open the walls to connect them. They then added an art department, a drafting department, and a gift store.

"We were in that building, I think, for seven, seven and a half years," Howsmon said. "Of course during that time we ran out of space and we were working out of a quonset hut over on Kentucky."

In 1980, the Howsmon's purchased the Christman Building, which had been built in 1917 to house Christman's Dry Goods Company and in 1954 became Macy's Department Store.

"Things were not as economically sound, and yet we bought a bigger building," she said.

Brian Marlow, executive director of Main Street Joplin, said it is helpful to have Howsmon's where it is located.

"If they weren't down here, anytime we needed copy paper, we would have to get in our car and go to the mall," he said. "And their service is far better than what you'll find in a strip mall."

Since then, Howsmon said things have continued to change with the business as it adjusted with the times.

"Five years ago we dropped the wholesale because we were losing our mom and pop dealers," she said. "The big Office Max, Office Depos coming to town and these little mom and pop stores were being gobbled up by these folks."

Howsmon said things continually change with this business. Things that were used only three years ago are no longer needed.

"We're changing right along with it; you have to or you will die," she said. "We have to stock our shelves with the things that really move, today's products."

Howsmon said after all the changes in recent years, she is starting to enjoy the work again.

"Business is starting to get fun again; it was a downer there for a few years," she said. "It's fun again. I definitely think we are one of the leaders in our industry."

After his father's death two years ago, John Howsmon took over as CEO of the company. He deals heavily with designing layouts for steel cases used for office cubicles.

Howsmon said one of the newest additions to the business is a division called the gift basket. It designs gift baskets around price brackets and themes including gourmet foods, toiletries, and office supplies.

Howsmon's owns all but four or five buildings on the east side of Main Street between Fifth and Sixth streets, and leases out space in its main building and some of the connecting buildings.

Marlow said Howsmon's is an important part of the downtown area.

"That's a huge building," he said. "It's an anchor building and it's an anchor business."

Howsmon said they are currently working to make their main building a modern yet classy building.

"We're trying to remodel, update, but by the same token maintain the integrity of the building," she said. "There's some wonderful old architecture here, and I would certainly hate to replace this building." □

DOWNTOWN JOPLIN

Kassab's spanned over ninety years

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

In the 1950s, Range Line Road was expanded to four lanes and businesses began to flee downtown Joplin for the new business district.

Among the retailers who resisted the change was Kassab's Ladies Wear. Kassab's weathered other trends, including the construction of the Northpark Mall in 1972, before closing its doors last year.

"As the trend was going to the mall, we did not like the trend," said Anthony Kassab, whose family operated the store for over 90 years.

The store was always located on Main Street, but changed locations several times. The final location was 506 Main.

"Every business of any significance was downtown at the time," Kassab said.

In his 1985 book *Joplin: From Mining Town to Urban Center*, G.K. Renner said downtown had been the dominant shopping center since the 1870s.

Kassab said his family stayed downtown because of its market niche.

"It depends on what your goals are," he said. "If your main goal is to ensure you are in the mainstream...then you will have to [move]. But, it suited...us for a long time."

Kassab said moving to a mall would limit a business. The store would be constrained by mall hours and patrons would have to walk.

For Kassab's, it was also an issue of maintaining identity.

"It was identified with the woman who preferred the upper end of the pyramid," Kassab said.

The store sold everything from lingerie to cosmetics. He said the store sold prom dresses and wedding gowns until other boutiques opened. However, most of the store's business came from women over the age 25.

Although Kassab's is out of business, Kassab still advocates a strong downtown.

"This is everybody's Main Street, unlike the mall, which is a private enterprise," he said.

The switch from downtown to Range Line continues, however, for the city to mature, Kassab said another change is necessary.

"No great city is without a viable, healthy, downtown district," he said. □

EVERYTHING ONE NEEDED



SPECIAL TO THE CHART

The Newman Building, as it looked in 1948, housed Newman's department store from the time it was built in 1910 until 1972. Today the building contains Hook-Up Trucking.

Legislators address ballot issues

Law would put tax on wireless phones

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Following the April 6 vote, lawmakers may be calling on Missouri residents with cellular telephones to pay a monthly tax for safety's sake.

Proposition A would allow the state to charge each wireless telephone user up to 50 cents per month in order to establish an enhanced 911 service.

"For two years now I've been working with the Department of Public Safety trying to figure out how we can do this, and it appears this is the most reasonable way to get the E-911 set up with cellular phones," said Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho).

"My only concern with it is that the money, once appropriated, is utilized in a way that is the most efficient," Marble said.

"The biggest concerns I have with government overall is that once we create a new source of revenue, suddenly there becomes a huge bureaucracy and you don't see the services the money had really been intended for."

Rep. Mark Elliott (R-Carl Junction) said he looked into the cost aspect as well.

"I was concerned about the cost, but after talking with people on the technical side, I can see where the cost is in trying to design a system to tell that phone where it is going to go," he said.

Setting the system in place quickly is what Marble hopes to see following the election.

"Once it's set in place, let's make sure that it's managed appropriately and that guidelines are set up so we don't waste our money in the bureaucracy and not actually get the system set up," he said.

Marble and Elliott have not been made aware of any opposition to the proposal.

"I haven't heard a word about it from anybody," Elliott said.

Marble said he thinks the affordability of the measure as well as the need for the service mainly contribute to public approval.

"I think it definitely has a lot of logic behind it," Marble said.

"Fifty cents a month may be a little bit of a cost, but if you can afford to have a cellular phone you can probably afford to spend an extra quarter or 50 cents for this kind of service."

"It's a lot like insurance. You feel more comfortable and safe because you have the opportunity and availability of service."

Elliott sees this as a safety measure which, because it is able to be taken, should be taken advantage of.

"If you've got a 911 system, it ought to include cellular telephones," he said. "And if it saves one life, it's worth it." □



Steve Richards, owner of Steve's Trading Post, Joplin, models a handgun. Richards says he is in favor of Proposition B.

Proposition allows citizens concealed weapons

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Citizens of Missouri may soon be joining 43 other states in the opportunity to strap on shoulder holsters or carry Glocks in their handbags.

Proposition B, which will be on the ballot April 6, would grant Missourians the right to apply for a license to carry concealed weapons.

"I hate it that we have to vote on it," said Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho). "We should have been able to pass that up here and not worry about it going to a vote of the people."

Marble says the Missouri legislature has passed the measure for several sessions, but Gov. Mel Carnahan would not sign it into law.

"The only way the governor said he would sign a bill is if it went to a vote of the people," Marble said.

Missouri would be the first state to pass the measure through the ballot process.

"This is the first time in this nation that a vote has been taken on concealed carry," Marble said.

The proposed law would allow qualified Missourians to apply for three-year permits to carry concealed weapons. Permits would include a photograph, date of birth, physical description, and

name and address of applicant.

Those wishing to qualify for concealed carry privileges within the state would have to meet qualifications.

- Must be a citizen at least 21 years old having lived in Missouri for at least six months;

- Must complete an authorized 12-hour concealed weapons course;

- Must pass a government-initiated background check;

- Must not have been dishonorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces;
- Must not have pled guilty to a crime greater than a misdemeanor or a crime involving firearms or explosives;
- Must not have exhibited violent behavior or use controlled substances.

Applicants would also be subject to fingerprinting and background checks on the state and federal level.

Steve Richards, owner of Steve's Trading Post in Joplin, was glad to learn about the restrictions.

"From the business standpoint, I like the training part of the bill," he said. "If this promotes safety and training and people learning to use the firearm by going through a course, then I think that's a positive step for the whole shooting industry."

Rep. Mark Elliott (R-Carl Junction) said those who do not support the bill do not understand the restrictions.

"I don't think the concerns of the peo-

ple who are against it are all that valid," he said. "This isn't walk into McDonald's and get your right to carry. There are a lot of safeguards built into it, and I just don't see any problem."

Elliott said the bill crosses partisan lines, and disagreement lies more on the geographic level.

"This is not a partisan issue; it is the most classic issue around here which is a rural/urban split," he said.

Richards says he hears concern that crime will be on the rise with the passage of the bill.

"That happens when drug people and gangs have guns and they run the street and everyone else is just an innocent victim and can't protect themselves against those people," he said.

Marble said states who have implemented the concealed carry have seen several benefits.

"Crime has gone down in those states, and there's story after story of individuals who were able to save lives because they happened to have a 22 in their purse," he said.

Marble also mentioned the issue of reciprocity, which means Missouri currently acknowledges the right to carry for citizens of other states traveling through Missouri.

"So, it only makes sense that I have the same rights as other people who are traveling across the state," he said. □

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS

'USA Today' honors SMSU student again

A Southwest Missouri State University student has been recognized by USA Today as one of the brightest students in America.

Wesley Wilson, 22, of Lockwood was inducted to the newspaper's All-USA College Academic Team. He was one of three Missouri students to receive honorable mention.

"I'm really flattered," Wilson said. "It should be recognized that receiving an award like this is not the result of one individual. It's a reflection of the schools, my family, the churches I grew up in, and SMSU. No one individual can really accomplish things on his own."

Wilson also received honorable mention by USA Today five years ago while attending Carl Junction High School, where he competed in a similar contest geared toward high school students.

The 200 winners were selected from 984 nominees. Wilson was nominated by SMSU's student affairs department.

A senior at SMSU, Wilson plans to graduate in May with a major in public policy and pursue a career in international policy and development. He is currently president of SMSU's Student Government Association. □

German Center opens at UM-St. Louis

The Center for International Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis will formally open its German Culture Center with a lecture and reception Tuesday night. The new center is located in the Southwestern Bell TeleCommunity Center.

Roland Mangold, professor in the department of organizational and media psychology at the University of Saarbrücken, will talk on "The Role of the Mass Media in the 1998 German General Election."

The German Culture Center is supported by the St. Louis German-American community, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Federal Republic of Germany, Degussa-Huls Group, and Fru-Con Construction Corporation.

"As the world becomes more interdependent economically and culturally, our citizens need to understand other cultures and the international issues shaping this region if we are to secure our place in the global economy," said Blanche Touhill, UMSL chancellor. □

CMSU students volunteer with Habitat for Humanity

Fifteen students from Central Missouri State University will leave for Amarillo, Texas, Sunday to spend their spring break as volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. The group plans to join volunteers from the University of Wisconsin in the construction of two houses, while also assisting the community's Habitat group move to a new headquarters.

This marks the third consecutive year that Central has offered an alternative spring break, and the second year that students have opted to take part in a Habitat project. Although carpentry experience is not a requirement for participation, the group will receive some coaching beforehand from Roy Schache, a faculty member in the department of manufacturing and construction. □

Truman will award prize for new flag winner

The Student Senate at Truman State University is hosting a flag competition to replace the current flag, which dates back to 1915.

All students, faculty, staff, and alumni interested in updating the flag are encouraged to submit original designs by March 1. A committee will select three designs to be voted on by the student body. There is a \$500 award for first place.

The flag should reflect the spirit of the university. The university logo may be used in compliance with the university logo guidelines. □

CAUSE FOR CONVERSATION



Mary Ellen Ananey, back left, talks with Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin), right, and Burton's intern Adam Crumbiliss about Juvenile Arthritis Tuesday during National Arthritis awareness week when several advocates visited the capitol. Ananey's daughter Megan is assisted by Kim Miller in the front.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Neediest students benefit from program

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Legislation enacted last year is in the process of acquiring money that would allow underprivileged Missouri students access to college.

Senate Bill 443 created the Missouri College Guarantee Program, one of four new programs by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

"The program is in place," said Dan Peterson, deputy director of MOSTARS (Missouri Student Assistance Resource Service). "Right now, it's in appropriations, pending the availability of funding."

According to Peterson, there was a miscommunication in the bill. It stated the program would begin in the fall of 2000. He said there is an amendment to activate the plan in the fall of 1999.

This financial aid program is a scholarship that does not have to be returned, and Peterson said it will benefit specific students.

"This is targeted for the most needy students," he said. "It is a need-based program."

The scholarship would require students to show financial need. To

be eligible, students must have a minimum of a 2.5 grade-point average, be active in high school extracurricular activities, and be free of criminal convictions, as stated by the bill.

"The need-based programs obviously provide new and additional opportunity to access college," Peterson said.

This program is the fourth of MOSTARS' new services seeking funding during this legislative session. Peterson said four new financial aid programs in one year is out of the ordinary.

Three to four new programs is a large number of programs to be passed by the legislature in one year," he said.

"This is very positive for Missouri students."

The scholarship is being funded through the Missouri Gaming Commission, which is, in part, provided by admission to Missouri's riverboat gambling facilities.

Peterson hopes to get logistics, and particularly the appropriation, taken care of so that the scholarship can be put in place.

"It's passed the governor and it looks good, but the legislative process has to take care of that," he said. □

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Antique Mansion offers unusual gifts, paintings

A new concept in antique malls, the Antique Mansion, is scheduled to open April 1. The mall is located at the crossroads of I-44 and 32nd Street ■ 4030 E. 32nd St.

One of the largest murals in Joplin will be hung in the Antique Mansion as part of the finishing touches. Measuring 50 feet wide by 12 feet tall, the 18-panel mural was painted by interior artist Natalie Wiseman of Joplin. She says the scene features a southern mansion set on a river with a riverboat in the background and ■ graced with azaleas and Spanish moss-draped trees. Each panel will be attached to a frame already in place.

Wiseman has done mural for 'Wok 'n Roll at Seventh and Wall and many private homes, and is currently painting murals ■ Victorian Accents ■ Grove, Okla. Her degree from Missouri Southern ■ in studio art. Steve, Stan, and Linda Cope are owner-operators of the Antique Mansion. It is open to prospective dealers who are interested in booth space rental Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Interested persons may call 781-0300 for more information. □

Hazardous waste collects interest of area residents

The disposal of household hazardous waste in a legal, ethical, cost effective, and environmentally correct way has been a challenge for southwest Missouri residents. The city of Joplin will host a household hazardous waste collection event Saturday ■ the Public Works Center, 1301 W. Second. Residents need to enter the A Street gate. Hours on Friday are from 1 p.m. ■ 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This event is open to all residents of Joplin as well as residents of McDonald, Newton, Jasper, Barton, and Vernon counties. People with household hazardous waste to dispose of should call the Region M office at 782-3515 or 800-788-3515 to make an appointment.

Products such as automotive products, household cleaners, drain openers, disinfectants, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, paint strippers, pool supplies, photography chemicals, and more will be accepted. On Saturday only, up to 10 clean automotive tires will ■ accepted. There will be a \$1 charge for each additional tire. □

Missouri Southern art major exhibits works

Donna Johnson Gilbreth of Joplin will have an art exhibit on display this month at the Regional Focus Gallery of the George A. Spiva Center of the Arts, 222 W. Third. Gilbreth, a graduate of Missouri Southern, has taught art in Joplin schools. She is teaching oils and watercolor at Franklin Technical School.

The exhibit will feature watercolors, oils, and pastels. The gallery is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. □

Area firm receives award honoring 45 years service

Algeier, Martin & Associates, Inc., a Joplin-based firm, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Consulting Engineers Council of Missouri. The firm was honored for 45 years of service. Members of CECMo are recognized on their 25th year of operation and every 10 years afterward. Special recognition ■ given on 50th and 100th anniversaries. □

Joplin Rotary Club will benefit charity programs

The Joplin Rotary Club started The Rotary Community Endowment to benefit charities and community projects. The endowment has a goal of \$200,000 by October 2000, and \$2 million by the year 2010, with only earnings from the endowment to be distributed.

Interested persons may send a check paid to the order of JRC Endowment to Joplin Rotary, P.O. Box 1771, Joplin, Mo. 64802. □

CITY OF JOPLIN

Proposed annexation impacts metro areas

City limits pushed to capacity with annexation plan

By PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

On April 6, voters will decide whether an area east of the city will be annexed.

"This will impact not only the 45,000 people who live in Joplin, but it affects the metro region's future," said Matt Allen, assistant to city manager Steve Lewis. "Without growth of the city limits, the city has nowhere to go."

The proposed annexation irregularly surrounds the future Range Line bypass ■ ■ general area north of Zora to south of I-44. If the proposal passes, the city limits will encircle Duquesne Village and an unincorporated area to the east of its boundaries.

The unincorporated area was left out when the proposal was being prepared because the city thought the area had been annexed by Duquesne Village.

When the error was discovered, the court process had already started and it could not legally be added.

If passed, the city will provide utilities and enforce city zoning regulations to control the type of growth within the area's limits. According to an information paper produced by the city manager's office, the process ■ determining almost all land use zones will begin after the proposal has passed.

"Any use on property before annexation will be allowed to continue after annexation," the position paper says. "However, the business may not be allowed to expand beyond its present use or its present level of use."

Residents will not be required ■ hook on ■ future water and sewer lines.

"Those operating on a septic system can

still use it unless it does not meet environmental standards," Allen said.

Police and fire protection, animal control, and street maintenance begin the effective date of annexation. The city will provide sewer mains, and Missouri American Water Company will extend water mains within 600 feet of all structures within three years.

Property insurance rates will be lower. The city fire rating, determined by the Insurance Service Office, ■ lower than any other fire service in the area, the information paper said.

"The largest determining factor for staffing public safety protection is calls for service," Allen said. "The calls for the annexation area that occurred during 1998, based on the county's 911 system, represent about 1 percent of the calls for service in the city."

The Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce supports the proposal and is supplying factual information about the issue to those who inquire.

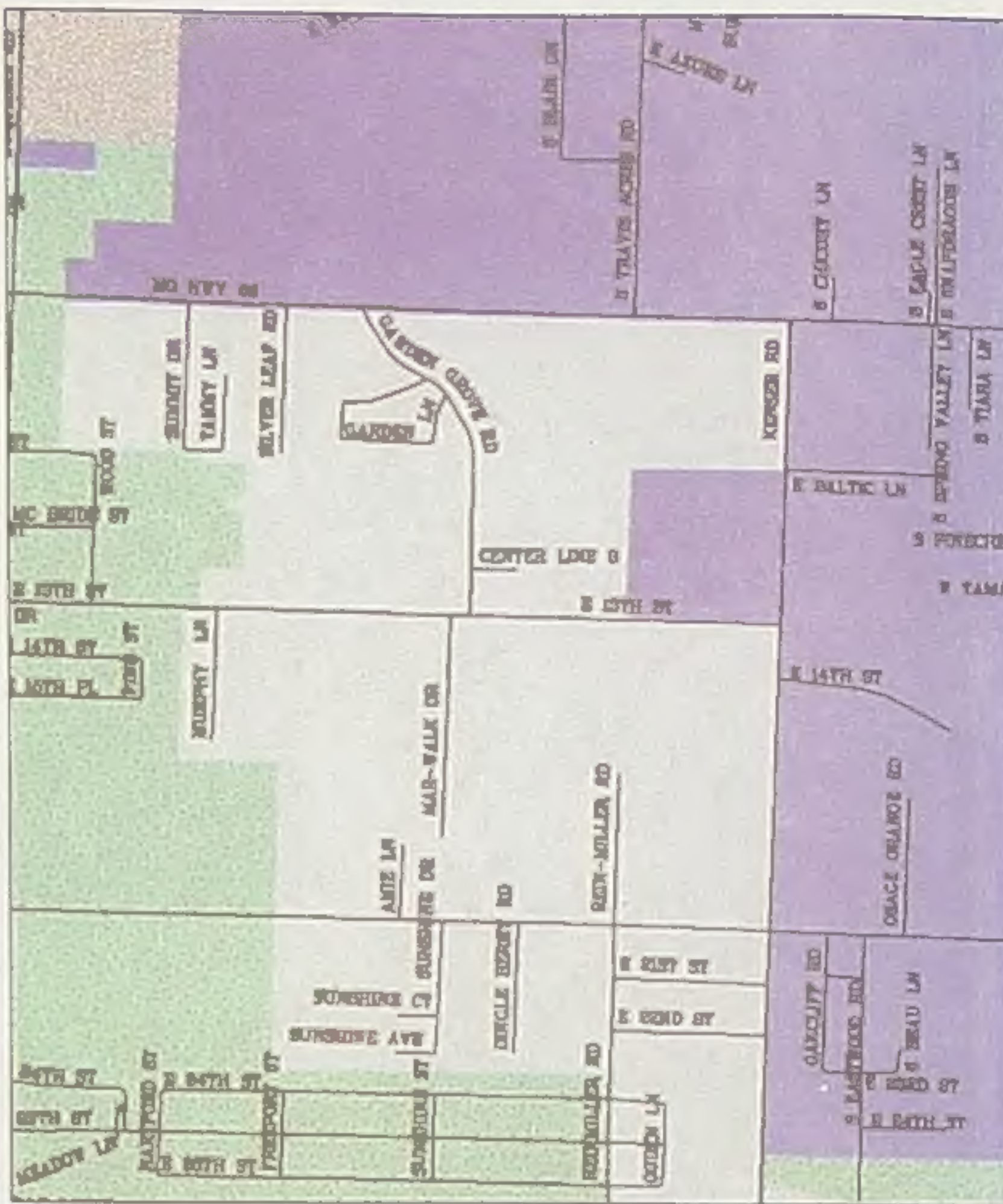
"The Joplin Chamber of Commerce is giving its endorsement to the east annexation and the proposal by the former city mayors to cut taxes if it is successful," said Rob O'Brian, Chamber president.

"We are kind of a conduit for the information. The city is limited to education. They cannot take the next step to say vote yes. We can."

The EPA and DNR have been working with the highway department to include the area's lead-contaminated gravel piles in the road base.

O'Brian said. Those areas will be cleaned up as the bypass goes through.

"Long-term, the sales tax revenue will far exceed what the city is giving up through property tax," he said. □



A map of the proposed annexation plan for the east part of Joplin. The plan would affect the 45,000 residents in Joplin.

DALE CARNEGIE TRAINING

Training center provides college transfer credit

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Students looking to broaden their education outside the boundaries of the Missouri Southern campus may find what they are looking for through Dale Carnegie Training.

The Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce ■ co-sponsoring classes through the program that will count for college transfer credit.

Three credit hours may be obtained through this 12-week course.

"It really lifted me up and gave me self-confidence," said Bob Hamm, area representative for Dale Carnegie Training.

Hamm, who first took the course in 1971, is also an instructor.

His area covers from Bartlesville, Okla., to 80 miles east of Springfield.

"I took the course for the first time in '71 to enhance my ability to work better and more efficiently in my business," Hamm said.

The skills one can obtain from the course include developing more self-confidence, poise and courage; speaking more effectively; controlling one's fear of an audience; improving memory skills; developing better leadership abilities; selling one's self and ideas; reducing stress and worry; and widening horizons.

Wayne Calvert, applications manager at CFI, is instructing the current course that began March 11.

He has been an instructor for 14 years.

and first took the course after his promotion to a management position.

"I wanted to learn how to get the most out of the position," Calvert said.

"I also wanted to learn human resources principles and motivate my people."

Since Dale Carnegie started courses in 1912, 4.5 million people have graduated from the program. In 1998, 600,000 graduated. It is now taught in more than 70 countries in 20 different languages.

"I can't say enough about the course," said Amy Potter, small business manager at the Chamber. "It literally changed my life."

"I took the course to polish my public-speaking abilities and to ease my discomfort when speaking to large groups."

The cost of the 12-week program is \$950. It is held at the Chamber office one night per week from 6:29 to 10.

Calvert said it was a totally different way of studying public speaking in that students learn from everyone's personal experiences.

"It is a very worthwhile experience for anyone wishing to improve their public speaking skills," said Tracy Erwin, a 1987 Southern marketing and management graduate and education and community projects manager at the Chamber.

Persons needing more information may contact Hamm at the Chamber at 624-4150 or Dale Carnegie Training at 1-800-879-8256. There is also a Web site at www.dalecarnegie.com. □

TURNAROUND RANCH

Auction to provide funds

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Single women looking for a romantic evening on the town will have an opportunity to "purchase" a bachelor ■ the first Turnaround Ranch fund-raiser.

Ozark Center's Turnaround Ranch, a division of Freeman Health Systems, is putting on this fund-raiser to benefit children who reside there.

Linda Teeter, project coordinator, believes the ranch gives children who have been abused the opportunity to turn their lives around.

"The ranch supplies 55 beds for 12- to 18-year-olds," she said. "They have a home ■ a controlled environment so they can go to school."

We also have an animal program in correlation with the 4H Club. The animals can not reject the children."

Therapy is also offered, and anyone can stay as long as they wish or until they reach age 18.

The fund-raiser is scheduled for Friday, April 2 at the Ramada Inn. There will be a cash bar and silent auction from 6 to 7 p.m. At 7 p.m., dinner will be served and the Mr. 4-States Contest takes place followed by the bachelor and handyman auction.

"The line-up for this event is excellent," Teeter said. "We have many prominent men in the contest."

Grant Wistrom, a 6-foot-8 player for the St. Louis Rams, is participating, and Alden Buerge, president of the First State Bank, to name a few."

She expects the crowd to number around 130. Local businesses donated silent auction items and door prizes.

Sponsors for the evening are Gary Bandy

and Stacy King from KSNF-TV. The Mr. 4-States portion will involve a beauty, talent, and poise section in which a panel of women will judge the participants.

Some of the judges include Myra Carr, owner of Inter City Florist & Gifts and wife of Earl Carr, Joplin mayor, and Anna-Ruth Crampton, Jasper County commissioner. After the judging portion, contestants will walk around and work the crowd for more donations, Teeter said.

The Bachelor Auction will include five men to choose from. Each bachelor comes complete with a dinner certificate for two. Bidding begins at \$50.

"The ages for the bachelors range from 22, 32, 44, and 50, so there will be a range of ages to interest women of all ages," Teeter said.

The Handyman Auction also include five "studs" to perform duties for lucky winners.

The recipient of this auction will receive four hours of labor in the winner's field of expertise.

He also comes complete with a \$50 gift certificate from Meeks Lumber Company.

Some of the participants for this event include Rob O' Brian, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce president; Bill Scruggs of Larry Hickey Distributing; Kevin Restivo, BriteWay manager; and Steve Lea, captain of the Joplin Fire Department.

There are still openings for the Mr. 4-States contest. The rules require entrants to be 21.

Tickets are available in advance from Commerce Bank for \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door.

"There are still tickets, but our supply ■ limited," said Bruce Anderson, vice president of Commerce Bank.

For more information, interested persons may contact Joy Byer ■ 781-0821 or Teeter at 781-4820. □

LIL' KERNELS



Terry Vogt, area resident, shares some popcorn with his son and daughter, Alex and Allyah, Wednesday afternoon at Northpark Mall.

SOFTBALL

Big bats absent, squad drops four

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

Three errors by Missouri Southern (1-5) in the top of the 10th inning led to the only run of Wednesday afternoon's contest against Southwest Missouri State (12-4) at Lea Kungle Field.

The two-and-a-half-hour game featured stellar pitching by SMSU's Nora Cagwin (8-0) and Southern freshman Stacy Guptill (0-3). Guptill struck out three batters and gave up five hits while Cagwin allowed nine hits in the 1-0 win but fanned 14 batters in the process.

"We had enough hits to win the game," said Southern head coach Pat Lipira. "You can only play so long until somebody scores. I just wish it would have been us."

Southern had several opportunities to score, but SMSU's defense would not allow it. The Lady Lions stranded runners on third base in the second and third innings.

"We had several opportunities to score, but we just couldn't bring them home," Lipira said. "We gave them too many chances. If it costs us a run, it's like pulling teeth trying to get it back."

Third baseman Melissa Wheatley went two for four, and Jenny Kennemer also had two hits for the Lady Lions.

In the second game, SMSU broke a 2-2 tie in the top of the sixth inning and added two more in the seventh to cruise to a 5-2 victory.

Freshman Hailey Stanley (0-2) gave up 10 hits in the seven-inning contest and struck out three batters.

Tauni Kennemer (3-3) surrendered three hits to Southern and gave up no earned runs.

At the Pittsburg State Invitational last weekend, the Lady Lions pitched and fielded sensationally, according to Lipira, but experienced offensive drought. On Friday, they dropped a 1-0 decision to Columbia College and 2-1 to the University of Missouri-Rolla.

On Saturday, the Lady Lions lost 1-0 to Oklahoma Baptist University.

"Our bats will come around, hopefully," Lipira said. "Like I said before, we're in a great situation with our pitchers. They did a great job the entire weekend."

Stanley said she was pleased with her overall pitching performance.

"I really needed the confidence boost," Stanley said. "Everything seemed to be working. They couldn't hit my drop ball, and even my change-up was working."

The Lady Lions/Ott's Food Classic is scheduled this weekend at Four Seasons, but the weather may not permit it. Forecasts project sleet and snow.

"There are going to be 19 teams calling me wondering what to do on Thursday morning, and I'm going to have to make a decision," Lipira said Wednesday. "I'd hate to cancel a big tournament like this, but I wouldn't want to travel in bad weather either."



Erin Turner attempts to score from third base but was left stranded in the third inning in Southern's 1-0 loss in game one of Wednesday's doubleheader at Lea Kungle Field.

BASEBALL: Teams to have choice of bats

From Page 12

The games were played with wooden bats.

Turner said he would allow the visiting team to choose aluminum or wooden bats.

"They are our guests, and we are here to serve," he said.

The Lions will be at home this week for the Mutt Miller Classic.

A doubleheader is scheduled for today.

In the first game at 1 p.m., Southern will face Jamestown College with junior right-hander Trevor Brown scheduled to throw.

Eric Jackson, another junior right-hander, will pitch the second game at 4 p.m. against Bemidji State.

Games are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday against Midland Lutheran College, but Turner said plans may change because of weather.

The Mutt Miller Classic is scheduled to be played through March 20.

The Lions will travel to Missouri Western March 20 for an MIAA doubleheader.

"We are going to play a bunch of games in the next two weeks," Turner said.

Southern will play host to the Leroy Wilson Classic from March 21st through March 28th.

SOCCER

Cook resigns as head soccer coach in pursuit of career goals

Athletic department, players express surprise

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

In order to explore other career opportunities, Missouri Southern head soccer coach Jim Cook announced his resignation.

Cook, who is pursuing a specialist's

degree in secondary administration from Southwest Missouri State University, said job offers may interfere with soccer season.

"If I would have been offered a job during soccer season, chances are I wouldn't have honored my coaching contract," he said.

"Instead of doing that, I just told them that I would not re-sign."

Cook's resignation came as a shock to members of the athletic department and his players as well. Men's athletic director

Jim Frazier said Cook made a large contribution to Southern soccer and will be missed.

"Jim Cook has been very loyal to Missouri Southern and helped us develop our soccer program, and for that we are extremely grateful," he said.

Sophomore Esdra Lamy said the team was surprised when Cook announced his resignation at a team meeting. He added that there were rumors of his departure but nothing was definite.

"We all thought he'd be around since he started the legacy," Lamy said.

"He helped us to our first championship and was coach of the year."

Cook served as Southern's head coach from 1995-98 and led the Lions to a share of the MIAA title in 1997.

He holds a career record of 35-30-4 and was co-coach of the year in the MIAA following the 1997 season.

In addition to a four-year stint at Southern, Cook coached for 18 years at

Joplin High School where he compiled a 158-39-10 record and won two Ozark Conference titles and four district titles.

Cook said although he will be leaving, he plans to support both Southern teams 100 percent.

"I signed three girls for this season and am on the verge of signing a few more," he said.

"I recruited the players and made the schedule this season, so I'll still be a big part of next season."

CACTUS JACK'S

CACTUS JACK'S T-BOLLO PRODUCTS & GIFTS

10% discount for students!!

Novelties and gifts
Hours: 10-5 Tues.-Sat.
10th and Main, Joplin 626-7448

MISSOURI CONSTITUTION TEST

LECTURE TUESDAY, APRIL 20 12:20 p.m.--WH210	TEST THURSDAY, APRIL 29 12:20 p.m.--WH210
--	--

All out-of-state students who plan to graduate in May, 1999; July, 1999 or December, 1999 who have not taken U.S. Gov't or State and Local Gov't in a Missouri college should see Pat Martin, H318 on or before April 15 to sign up to take the test.

Please note: Students taking this test must pay a \$5.00 fee to the Business Office, H210, prior to taking the test; and present your receipt to the instructor when you go to the test room.

Jim Carroll

WRITER OF
THE BASKETBALL DIARIES

"CARROLL'S LIVE PERFORMANCES ARE A MAGICAL COMBINATION OF POETRY, HISTORY, AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS. HIS VOICE CONTINUES TO CAPTIVATE AND STIMULATE AUDIENCES OF ALL KINDS."
(WESTVALE TALENT, INC.)

LECTURE-7:00 P.M.-MARCH 17-
WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

C SAVES YOU
A \$8.00 ON
B MADRIGAL
DINNER
TICKETS!!
NOW ONLY
\$10.00-BSC
BOX
OFFICE

There is absolutely no other attraction
That can generate the kind of total excitement
You get with...

ZAP ATTACK

You and your battle squad gear-up with laser guns to stalk the opponent in this portable fantasy-scape laser arena.

IT'S FREE!!
ON CAMPUS FROM 12-6 P.M.,
AT THE OVAL

Sports Scope

Tae Bo melts
excess bodyfat,
worth its wait

It's easy to forget that slipping a little out of shape after failing to vigorously exercise for a long period of time is common for those of us who are structurally challenged.

A few months ago, I came to the realization I was no longer a lean 278-pounder (what an oxymoron), and it was time to find that girlish figure once again. All



Andre L. Smith
Sports/Design Editor

everyone kept talking about was this darn Tae Bo video. My mother asked for it for Christmas. The Tae Bo infomercial took the place of my favorite

show in its time slot. Even my girl and friends made me flip back to the infomercial in order to catch a glimpse of Billy Blanks' rippling muscles.

"All right, that's enough," I said. "What does he have that I don't?"

It was apparent that it instead was about what he doesn't have that I do — about 120 extra pounds.

So, off I ran to Suncoast in pursuit of Tae Bo. Between Christmas and Valentine's Day, my girlfriend developed an interest in the video and decided she wanted it as well. Great, someone to exercise with.

While walking through the mall (with my stomach sucked in and my chest sticking out) it felt like everyone knew what I was buying. As imagined, the videos were in a rack at the front of the store. It was a quick exchange — I gave her my money, she gave me the bag, and right away I felt lighter (my pockets did anyway).

After a couple of light meals (fast food) and lack of time (procrastination), I was finally able to start the video.

Somewhere in the world of eating burgers and doing push-ups, it was forgotten that stretching was a major part of working out. As any male would think, there was no reason to do the instructional video. After all, it couldn't be that hard to kick and punch, jump around, and work up a sweat.

Thus began the Tae Bo experience. It actually wasn't bad for the first couple of minutes. The marching, squatting, and knee lifts were much enjoyed. A little bit further into the video, it switched to the boxing mode and my heart said, "What the heck are you doing?"

It wasn't a struggle, however, and energy quickly flowed from my body. This 27-minute experience climaxed at about the halfway point when Blanks switched to Tae Kwon Do kicks. Knowing that my leg would not go much higher than my waist, I began to motivate myself by thinking of ex-girlfriends and bitter enemies. And it almost worked.

Although feeling a little woozy upon completion, it goes without saying that my body felt different after the first time. I was ready to go again until I felt something pop in the back of my leg. After a few days of soreness, Tae Bo called again, and again, and again.

Until a former employee who hadn't seen me in a few months asked me if I was losing weight, I feared it wasn't working.

Maybe it is. So whether you have to put your name on a list or spend your monthly ice cream money, Tae Bo is an investment that is worth it. □

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

National Champion

Dotson earns national crown in Indianapolis

By ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

"It's always a good feeling to win, but this one is a little different because it's something I set as a goal."

Kevin Dotson
High jump
national champion

After a long trip to the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, three Missouri Southern athletes returned home, with one a national champion.

Junior high jumper Kevin Dotson earned the national title after jumping 7-1 1/4.

Dotson, who went into the tournament ranked No. 1 in the nation, said his biggest competition was defending champion Greg Roberts of Morehouse State University.

"It was the best competition I've seen since the meet earlier this season at Arkansas," Dotson said. "I've seen Roberts clear 7-6, so I knew how well he jumped. He's a really great jumper, but he struggled a little with injury this year and the entire competition was close."

Dotson cleared 7-1 1/4 on his second attempt, and Roberts cleared it on his

third attempt, which gave Dotson the title.

"Kevin really jumped well," said Tom Rutledge, head men's track and field coach. "He could have gone higher if he needed it. You couldn't ask for a better meet."

Dotson, a transfer from the University of Arkansas, went into the season with one thing in mind. He wanted to win a national title.

"It's always a good feeling to win, but this one is a little different because it's something I set as a goal," Dotson said.

The goals do not stop there, however. Improvement is high on Dotson's list of goals for next year's indoor season.

"I still have outdoor season coming up, so hopefully I'll have success," he said. "During the off-season I have to continue to work hard on my drills, and I'll come back strong and be ready to go again."

Dotson is the first male national champion at Southern, and with the outdoor

season right around the corner, will have added pressure on him and the team.

"Kevin is a good team person," Rutledge said. "He gets a lot of support from our team and lets people know that he does."

Senior hurdler Tina Keller and mile runner Amanda Harrison missed out on the finals by one spot and three-hundredths of a second.

"Amanda ran a 5:01.24, which beat the school record she had set three weeks earlier," said Patty Vavra, head women's track and field coach. "It just turned out that 5:01.21 was what got into the final race."

Tina Keller missed out by one spot as well, being just two-hundredths of a second behind.

"In that short of a race (55-meter hurdles), you have to have a great start," Vavra said. "She didn't get the greatest start, but ran real strong the rest of the race." □

BASEBALL

Dudinsky conquers aggravating injuries

Pitcher sticks it out
for one last season

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

Surgery on a pitcher's shoulder or elbow does not always end careers, but it will definitely put a promising career on hold — possibly for as many as three years.

Coming out of Brooklyn Center (Minn.) High School in 1995, the future looked bright for Missouri Southern junior Justin Dudinsky. He was coming off a senior year that saw him earn all-conference in both basketball and football, all-state in baseball, and Metro Player of the Year while leading his high school baseball team to the state championship game.

However, things began to unravel during the summer before his arrival in Joplin. Dudinsky, while playing American Legion baseball, injured his arm, thus starting a three-year struggle marked by two elbow surgeries and hours of grueling rehabilitation.

"When he first started at Missouri Southern, we spent the entire fall that first year working with his arm and shoulder doing some rehab," said Marty Conklin, head athletic trainer. "In the spring, he was pitching, and right off the bat he turned his ankle, so he missed about two weeks. Then when he went back to throwing, his arm started hurting him. The first year he had arm problems the whole time."

After being redshirted in 1995-96, Dudinsky was ready to start his Southern career.

He made 11 starts on the mound and started another 18 games in the outfield.

However, the season would end just before the MIAA tournament with the disappointing news of the need for arthro-

scopic surgery to remove bone spurs and chips from his elbow.

"My sophomore year, I played when I probably should have had surgery," Dudinsky said. "I was pretty much in pain the whole year."

Once more Dudinsky would be in the hands of the athletic training staff.

He started an intensive rehab program to regain the lost range of motion in his pitching elbow. Implementing the exercises of renowned orthopedic surgeon Dr. Frank Jobe and using an assortment of exercises to regain the lost range of motion and strength, he once again readied himself for another comeback.

One week before the opening of the 1998 season, the pain returned, putting an end to the season before it had even started.

On April 1, back home in Minnesota, Dudinsky underwent one hour of surgery to alleviate the pain.

Entering what will be his last season for the Lions, Dudinsky is finally healthy and sees baseball from a much different perspective.

"When you're young, it seems like baseball is the most important thing in life and there's nothing more important," he said. "As you grow older, doors open up and when I got into college, more things opened up. It made me realize there's more to life than just baseball."

"The injury put things into perspective. It makes you realize there are more important things you have in your life, like having a wife and a career that you want to get started. The injury made me think about whether it's worth it."

Dudinsky and his fiancée, Tamara Cain, have set an Aug. 14 wedding date. He plans to transfer and attend either Michigan State University or the University of Denver, whichever school his spouse chooses for her graduate studies.

"It truly was a tough time for him," Conklin said. "He never got down and quit, and he could have. It was a three-year process. I'm looking forward to seeing him throw and have some success. He certainly has earned it." □



Justin Dudinsky
Lions pitcher



JEFF WELLS/The Chart

Despite the cold weather, Junior pitcher Justin Dudinsky pitched the entire game in Wednesday's 6-0 loss to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Lions toppled in home opener

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Caught out in the cold Wednesday afternoon, Missouri Southern (1-8) was outscored 9-1 and dropped both games of a doubleheader to the University of Missouri-St. Louis (4-1).

Junior left-handed Justin Dudinsky (1-2) said he was unprepared for the assault Rivermen hitters unleashed on him in the first game.

"I don't ever expect myself to give up a lot of runs," Dudinsky said. "I didn't really expect that."

UMSL, ranked No. 21 in Division II, won the game 6-0 on seven hits. Jeremy Birdeau

pitched the shutout for the Rivermen.

Dudinsky surrendered a home run to designated hitter Mark Haglund on a fast ball in the sixth inning.

Despite temperatures in the 40s, Dudinsky said he was not affected by the temperatures.

"Once you're playing, it's not cold," he said.

Southern head coach Warren Turner said UMSL was a traditionally strong team. After several years in the MIAA, the Rivermen now play in the Mid-Lakes Conference.

"We just got beat by a good team. I have to give them credit; it wasn't anything we did," Turner said. "We pitched well, and they

just got the key hits and executed better than we did."

UMSL won the second game 3-1. The loss moved junior right-hander Jeremy Fowler's record to 0-3.

Dudinsky and junior shortstop Cory Wright both hit doubles for the Lions in the second game.

"We know we are not going to score a lot of runs," Turner said.

The Lions had three hits in the Rivermen's five.

Despite freshman center-fielder Joey Ballard dive catching two back-to-back line drives in the first game, Southern suffered on defense. The Lions committed five errors on the afternoon.